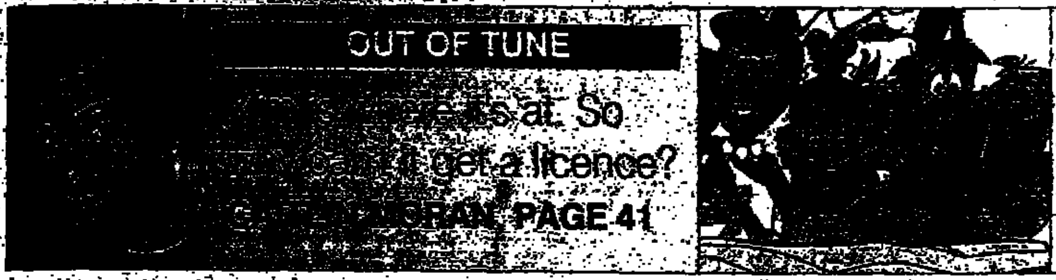

OUT OF TUNE

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THE TIMES

No. 65,409 FRIDAY OCTOBER 27 1995

Divorce reform may be abandoned

'Pro-family' Tory MPs scupper Bill to extend legal rights of unmarried women partners

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

THE Government last night bowed to pressure from Conservative MPs and withdrew proposals that would have extended to unmarried women legal safeguards against domestic violence now restricted to wives.

The proposals would have meant that a woman living with a man in his house could have got a court order forcing him to quit the property for up to six months.

Faced with a certain revolt from Tories who said it would undermine the institution of marriage, *Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the* Lord Chancellor, agreed to the eleventh-hour shelving of the Fam*ily Homes and Domestic Violence* Bill, which was almost through Parliament. A question mark remained last night over far-reaching plans to reform the *divorce* laws in spite of the Cabinet's agreement to leave it in the next legislative programme.

Tory traditionalists, buoyed by their victory over the domestic violence Bill, are expected to launch a last-ditch fight to prevent Lord Mackay's measure appearing in the Queen's speech.

Conservative MPs are certain to get a free vote if it goes ahead. But at Westminster last night there *appeared to be a distinct lack of* enthusiasm for the measure among senior ministers and business managers. "*Is this* measure, which could set Tory MP against Tory MP in the run-up to an election, the right thing to be *doing at this time*?," one minister demanded.

The Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill would have given unmarried people the same right as married couples have for the husband to be evicted if he commits violent attacks on his wife. The Bill was thought by Conservative MPs to be uncontentious and has gone through the Commons on the "fast-track" *procedure*.

Only in recent days have MPs woken up to the idea that it *contains proposals that would* give co-habitees the same rights as married people, and have unleashed a fierce attack on *it as* a blow to marriage and the Conservative image as the party of the family.

Before yesterday's Cabinet meeting, Lord Mackay had an hour-long meeting with the opponents, an encounter that convinced him he should withdraw the most disputed proposals. This was confirmed by the Cabinet which decided that the Bill, due to be considered in the Commons on Monday, should be suspended while Lord Mackay and his officials decide whether other parts of the Bill can be rescued.

As one MP emerged from the meeting with Lord Mackay, he said: "Yes, we have won." The news *that the Bill was being suspended* was given to the Commons by Tony Newton, the Leader of the House, and prompted an attack from Ann Taylor, his Labour shadow. She said that the overdue measure to tackle domestic violence was "being destroyed by the extreme wing of the Conservative party".

Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, added: "The sacrifice of a long-overdue and hitherto strongly supported measure to protect the victims of *domestic violence on the altar of* internal Tory party politicking is a shameful abuse of parliamentary processes."

One MP at the meeting with the Lord Chancellor, Edward Leigh (Gainsborough and Horncastle), said that co-habitees should not have the same rights as married couples, particularly if there were no children involved. "The breakdown of the family is the No 1 problem facing our nation and as a party we must not be seen to be doing anything to undermine the institution of marriage."

Strong reservations remained among Tory MPs over Lord Mackay's other measure, which will be the biggest shake-up of the *divorce laws for 25 years. The Bill*, equally controversial among many Tories, would halve the time needed *to push through a "no-fault"* divorce from two years to 12 months.

Lady Olga Maitland, Conservative MP for Sutton and Cheam, attacked the idea of a "no fault" divorce and said *Lord* Mackay should be putting more obstacles to divorce. "If you make it too easy it looks like a car hire-purchase, that you simply just return the car when you have had enough or you return the spouse when you have had enough."

Lord Mackay defended his proposals, although he admitted the Bill could run into trouble when it comes before Parliament.

He said on BBC television: "Anything may come a cropper. I *have not rushed into this. The* original matters were proposed by the Law Commission some five years ago. *I have had a Green* Paper, White Paper and I have tried to discuss these matters in great detail with everyone who has expressed an interest in them."

New heart attack puts Yeltsin's future in doubt

From Richard Beeston in Moscow

PRESIDENT YELTSIN was back in hospital under medical observation last night after suffering an acute heart ailment for the second time in four months.

In an attack that could cost the ailing Russian leader re-election in the coming year, the *President* was admitted to Moscow's Central Clinic hospital after *complaining* of chest pains while working at his country home.

"This seems to be the end of Yeltsin as a public politician," Sergei Markov, political commentator for the Carnegie Endowment in Moscow, said. The President's only chance of staying on beyond next summer, he said, was to cancel the presidential elections.

President Yeltsin, 64, has had a history of health problems and the latest incident is likely to increase the perception at home and abroad that he is not fit to serve a second term when his presidency ends next June.

Kremlin officials tried to play down the seriousness of his condition, saying that President Yeltsin *remained* in control of the country, including its nuclear arsenal, and would resume *his duties after* medical tests and consultations with heart experts.

The ailment appeared to be a less severe version of the heart seizure he suffered in June caused by the same condition, acute ischaemia, a restriction of blood to the heart. Kremlin officials *said that the* condition was not life-threatening and that surgery had been ruled out.

It was not clear, however, how long the Kremlin leader would stay in hospital. After his last attack he disappeared from public view for a month. Under Russia's constitution, if the head of state is unfit to hold office or dies, his position is filled by the head of government, in this case Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister.

"The illness gravely complicates the problem of an heir," Mr Markov said. The strongest contender is Mr Chernomyrdin. The constitution states that if the President is incapacitated, the Prime Minister will take over as acting head of state for up to three months. He filled that role in the summer when Mr Yeltsin was in hospital and was widely tipped then as a future president.

Igor Ignatyev, a Kremlin *spokesman*, ruled out the need *for any changes*. "There *is no* question of replacing Yeltsin," he said. "The President is in charge. There is no indication so far that he cannot carry out his duties."

The *Kremlin's* assurances were greeted with some scepticism. The Kremlin leader has not been seen in *public since* he ended his visit to America on Monday and most Russians will be convinced about the true state of his health only when he reappears on their television screens.

After his attack in the summer, the Kremlin press service released a photograph of President Yeltsin allegedly working in hospital: that was shown later to be a photograph taken months before.

Kremlin aides said that President Yeltsin's condition may have been aggravated by his punishing schedule over the past week, when he visited Paris, addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New York and held talks with President Clinton. Since his convalescence this summer he is said to have much reduced his alcohol consumption.

It was not clear last night if he would be fit enough to host a meeting of the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia next week in Moscow. He has postponed a planned visit to Peking *due to have taken place* on November 9; a trip to Norway later in the month *also looks doubtful*.

"The President's condition does not inspire great optimism: *he* will scarcely be able to return to work in the next few days," Viktor Ilyushin, the President's closest adviser, said. He said a final decision was likely this morning.

No matter how soon President Yeltsin is back at work, the political fallout from his second heart seizure in four months will be considerable. The latest attack could not have come at a worse time for the President who had appeared to be laying the foundations for a re-election campaign next year.

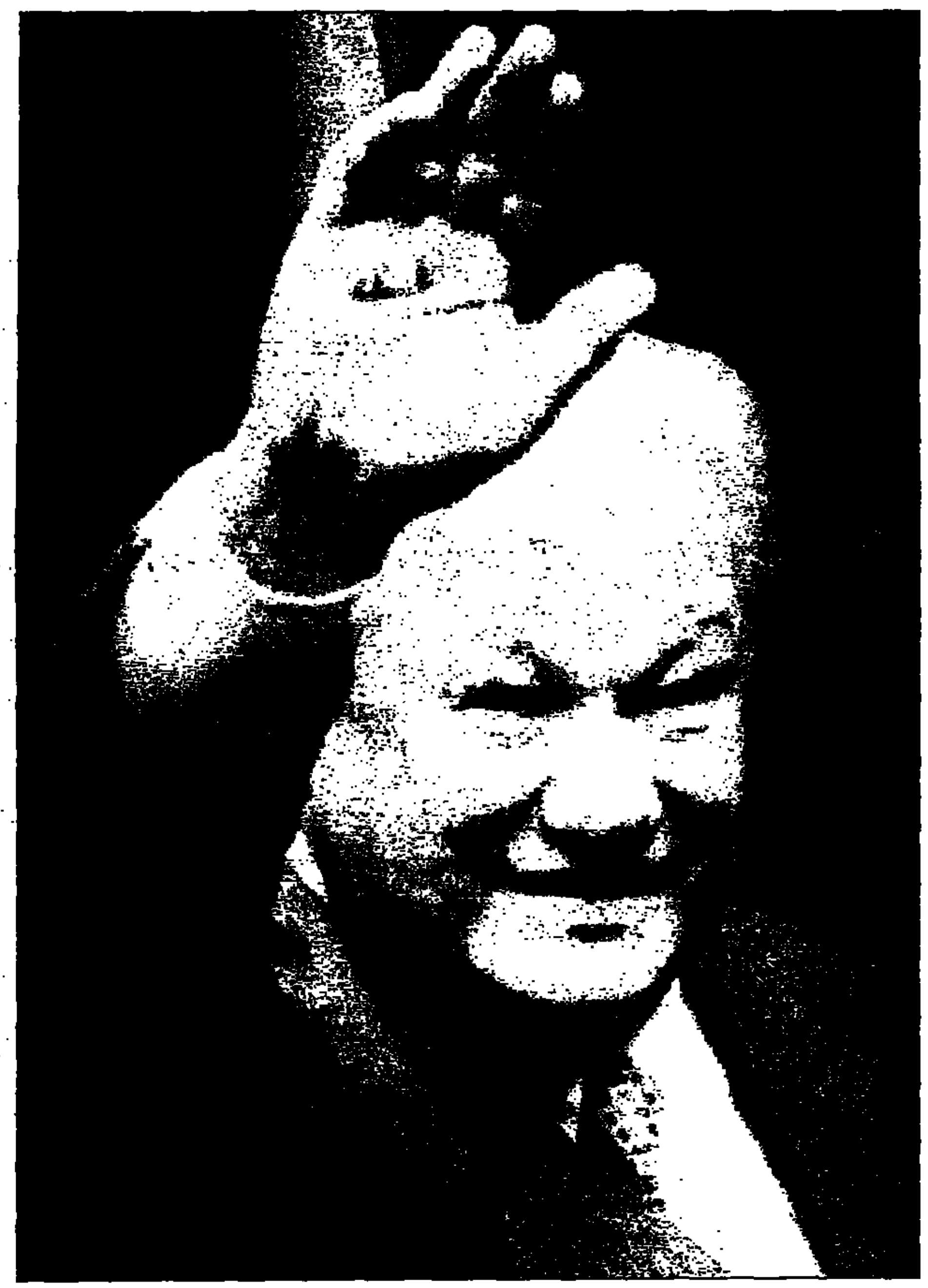
Now, however, his chances of running a successful race must be severely diminished and *his opponents* will intensify their challenge for the leadership.

☐ ***Commons muddle:*** *The* Commons was in confusion briefly yesterday over *President Yeltsin's fate. Tony* Newton, Leader of the House, expressed the shock and sadness of *the Commons at the* death of Mr Yeltsin, only to discover a few minutes later that he was still alive.

MPs heard of the President's alleged death from Tim Devlin, a Tory MP, at 4pm. Mr Newton expressed his sympathy, but eight minutes later *Sir* Patrick Cormack, another Conservative, told the House that Mr Yeltsin was alive.

Yeltsin succession, page 15

Chernomyrdin: next in line of succession



Yeltsin waves as he arrives at the Russian UN mission in New York last Saturday

Hectic lifestyle is not good therapy

By Dr Thomas Stuttaford

PRESIDENT YELTSIN look*ed a sick man when he was in* New York. Flying around Europe and America, where *he had a heavy schedule, is not* recommended occupational therapy for a man who has *been in hospital this year* with myocardial ischaemia, or coronary heart disease.

His punishing regime, probably associated with excessive wining and dining, may have dislodged an atheromatous plaque which could have led to complete or partial obstruction of a small coronary artery.

Myocardial ischaemia is the technical term for the condi*tion in which the myocardi*um, the heart muscle, receives an inadequate supply of blood *and hence of oxygen and* glucose. As a result, the patient suffers from angina, a crushing, gripping chest pain that often radiates down the arms and up into the neck.

Because Mr Yeltsin is in hospital, it must be assumed that the pain persisted and did not respond to treatment, usually some form of glyceryl trinitrate.

Mr Yeltsin will be treated conservatively, initially with aspirin or beta-blockers. As he presumably had clotbusters, *streptokinase, at the time of* his previous admission they will not be repeated since this *is unwise within 12 months.*

His doctors will know in a few days' time the degree to *which the artery has been* obstructed because by then they will have had the oppor*tunity of plotting* changes *in* the enzymes produced by the heart *muscle*. These enzymes are increased because the muscles have been so deprived of oxygen by complete obstruction of a blood vessel that they have been irreparably damaged.

Heseltine to have operation

MICHAEL HESELTINE was *said last night to be "feeling* fine, sparkling even" after it emerged that he is to be *admitted to hospital for a* kidney stone operation.

The 62-year-old Deputy Prime Minister, who suffered a heart attack in 1993, will undergo an operation at the London Clinic next month, the Cabinet Office said. Conservative Party sources were playing down the significance of his condition, insisting that he would stay in hospital briefly.

However, his operation means that Mr Heseltine is likely to miss the State Opening of Parliament and the Queen's Speech on November 15. A Cabinet Office spokesman said that the Deputy Prime Minister was expected to be away from his office for "a few days", but would return to full duties once he had *recuperated*.

It was being stressed that Mr Heseltine was having to undergo only a minor operation and there were no long-term concerns for his health. He is expected to carry out a

Continued on page 2, col 5

BT cut off 765,000 in past year

By Eric Reguly

BRITISH TELECOM has disconnected 765,000 of its 22 *million residential customers* over the past year, according to the Consumers' Association, using figures compiled by Oftel, the industry's regulator.

That is 28 times the disconnection rate of the water, gas and electricity industries combined. Phillip Cullum, the association's policy manager, accused BT of being "slow to recognise that the current level of disconnections is simply unacceptable".

However, BT said the problem was easing. In the past year, 0.7 per cent of the customer base was disconnected for failure to pay, compared with 1.5 per cent five years ago. In the 1994-95 financial year, residential customers left BT *with about £147 million of* unpaid bills.

BT said one-half to two-*thirds of disconnected sub*scribers pay their bills almost immediately. To try to reduce the disconnection rate, it is considering giving new customers a monthly credit limit.

Euro song sceptics could throw Britain out

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

NEVER mind *nul points* — Britain faces the ultimate indignity in next spring's Eurovision Song Contest of *failing even to qualify*.

New rules mean that Britain will have to beat off competition *from* countries such as Slovenia and Estonia to reach the finals.

The organisers, the European Broadcasting Union, have had to set a limit of 22 finalists and introduce a qualifying round because so many "new" countries from Eastern Europe want to take part. The *qualifyer will involve* representatives of every country listening to tapes of the submitted songs and whittling down the entries.

Jonathan King, music executive of the Great British Song Contest — renamed from the Song for Europe — said that this will be an anonymous preselection: "They won't know which country is which, so none of the nationalism comes in."

A spokeswoman for the BBC, which televises the contest, said the only country *that* could be sure of a place was Norway, as last year's winner. "All other countries will have to submit a song and wait for the selection. *Since the* end of the Cold War, other countries like Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovenia and Estonia have come foward. But we only have a three-hour show. That is the limit."

Although Britain's entry *last year, Love City Groove's* rap single, topped the charts in France and Portugal, it was tenth in the Eurovision contest. The single sold a quarter of a *million copies in Britain* alone and more than any other entry worldwide. "But if it had to go through the preselection, it wouldn't have been put into the final 22," Mr King said.

This year he assumes that Britain will make its mark on *Europe*. "My *ambition this* year is not just a hit, but to win."

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Major gets nasty with anyone in his way

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

"TREAT 'em mean and keep 'em keen" seems to be the new watchword from Number 10. John Major has returned from New York in shin-kicking form. A string of harmless questions yesterday triggered a succession of brutish prime ministerial muggings. Since the July leadership contest the impression grows that Mr Major has given up being nice to his enemies.

There was certainly no quarter for Tony Blair, whose question was mild and not obviously unfair. He was worried that new restrictions on housing benefit might leave poorer claimants caught between landlords' demands and benefit offices' refusal to pay. Major fair flew off the handle. He accused Blair of refusing to face the problem the new rules aimed to address.

"But are the rules right?" protested the Labour leader, adding that greedy landlords should be tackled head-on. The Prime Minister launched into a statistical rant of almost Thatcherian violence about the rising costs of benefits. It was all very well complaining about cuts, he snapped, but Blair refused to say how he would tackle the problem himself. "But I've *given* him a way of tackling it," squawked an aggrieved Mr Blair. At this, Mr Major blew himself into a storm, accusing the Labour leader of planning nationwide rent controls. "Now we know!" he barked, like prosecuting counsel who has just tricked the accused into an incriminating answer.

Blair gave up in frustration. Paddy Ashdown decided to have a go. What had the PM to say about the increase in school classes of more than 40? Major chose instead to box Ashdown about the ears for opposing Tory educational changes.

Next in line for a kicking was Labour's Neil Gerrard (Walthamstow) who tried to return to his leader's worries on housing benefit cuts. The Government was "attacking poor people", he said. Another assault from Major. A renewed Thatcherian rant was preceded by the sneer that the session was "getting increasingly silly".

Our Premier seems to have noticed rather late that PMQs is getting silly. In fact it got silly about 20 years ago. It was pretty silly when Jim Callaghan was PM. It was even sillier under Mrs Thatcher, and has stayed silly under Major. That's why we enjoy it so much.

Just to prove how silly it is, Mike Watson (Lab, Glasgow Central) attempted to move from the assertion that there are loopholes in the restrictions on temazepam, to the conclusion that this demonstrated Tory meanness, leading to "the loss of young lives". Major went ballistic, raging that questions like this justified the public's despair about Parliament. True; but so do the answers.

It must have been the mention of public despair at MPs which prompted David Evans to rise. Was the Member for Welwyn Hatfield offering himself as a horrific example? Evans, in whom those who have become disillusioned about fairies, witches and Santa Claus find it increasingly hard to believe, was a noisy cheerleader for John Redwood.

Some would have recommended a period of silence, followed by years of quiet charity work in the East End. Instead Evans belted out a toe-curling declaration of loyalty. He and his hon friends were "totally behind our leader".

For the first time that day, Major pulled a punch. "I lack my hon friend's gift for understatement," was what the PM said. What the PM thought was "rot in hell, you treacherous toad". But *Hansard* ignores the '*thinks*' bubble above MPs' heads.

Rush legislation to show Government is willing to make concessions for peace process

Ulster terrorists to be allowed earlier release from prison

By Arthur Leathley
Political Correspondent

NEARLY 500 terrorists in Northern Ireland will be allowed early release from jail under laws to be rushed through the Commons over the next fortnight.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, said yesterday that the move, which would affect a similar number of loyalist and nationalist terrorists, would help to show that the Government was prepared to make concessions to support the peace process.

He said that the measures to relax sentencing would enable 88 prisoners to be released before Christmas. A similar number are expected to be freed next year, and a total of around 470 over the next four years.

The legislation will bring remission for good behaviour for the terrorists into line with other categories of prisoner, who can serve only half of their sentences. Since 1989, prisoners serving fixed-term sentences of more than five years in Ulster for scheduled terrorist offences must serve at least two-thirds of their term.

In a speech at Queen's University, Belfast, in August, Sir Patrick signalled that he wanted to restore remission to 50 per cent for terrorists. Prisoners serving life sentences or discretionary life sentences will not benefit.

Sir Patrick insisted that the move did not represent an amnesty, nor did it suggest that terrorists were being treated as political prisoners. It was "necessary for the Government to show that it will be prepared to respond to an end of violence and to show that it has responded to an end of violence".

Reaction from republican hardliners was cool. Pat McGeown, a Sinn Fein spokesman, said: "The reality is that the introduction of 50 per cent remission will have little or no impact in terms of reducing the number of political prisoners in British jails either in the next 12 months or indeed by the year 2000."

Although the measure will be opposed by some Unionist MPs, Sir Patrick said he was confident it would pass throught the Commons and added that it was important it moved through quickly to ensure releases by Christmas.

Terrorist prisoners will now be subject to similar rules on remission as other categories of inmates. However, any terrorists now released after serving half their sentences will be subject to recall on licence until they have served two-thirds of their sentence.

This new provision means that prisoners may be recalled if they pose a risk to the safety of others or if they are likely to commit further offences.

Although ministers consulted Tory backbenchers and are confident of widespread support for the Northern Ireland Remission of Sentences Bill , some unease was evident during Northern Ireland questions in the Commons.

Ann Winterton, Tory MP for Congleton, asked: "How can you square this sentence reduction with the life sentence served on grieving relatives for who there can never be any remission whatsoever?"

Sir Patrick told her: "You are right what you say about the continuing effect of these crimes."

The Northern Ireland Office announced last night that barristers in the Province will no longer have to swear an oath of allegiance to the Queen in order to become QCs, a custom dating back to 1868. The move, a small concession to nationalists, comes after Philip Magee, a Roman Catholic barrister in Belfast, launched a legal campaign to remove the oath, which is not a requirement in England and Wales. He is supported by 24 colleagues. In a statement last night, the Northern Ireland Office said that QCs would in future be required to make a declaration to serve the Queen which would be changed to bring it into line with the declaration in England and Wales.

Denise Clarkin, who was covered in paint and had her long hair cut by the so-called punishment gang

Terrorist gang attacks teenage girl

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent

THE IRA was accused yesterday of breaching its ceasefire after a republican punishment gang dragged a 16-year-old girl from her home at gunpoint and tied her to a lamppost.

Denise Clarkin spoke yesterday of how the suspected IRA gang put a gun in her mouth, cut her hair and covered her in paint during the attack in West Belfast on Wednesday night.

She said she was attacked after the gang failed to find her older sister, Lucy, who is believed to have been sought by the IRA as part of a vendetta. The gang asked for Lucy as they forced their way into the Clarkins' house on the Twinbrook estate, but assaulted Denise when they discovered that their intended victim lived elsewhere.

Denise said the gang, who covered their faces with scarves, knocked at the front door. "I stood across the living room door and one of them stuck a gun in my mouth and shouted, 'Get away from the door or I'll blow your brains out'."

Her parents, Brian and Margaret, tried to tackle the gang, but one of the terrorists fired a blank at Mr Clarkin. They then dragged Denise away. She said: "I was screaming and kicked one of them and he fell to the ground. They tied me to the lamppost and cut my hair. By that time Daddy and Mummy and some of the neighbours were running down the street and one of them shouted: 'Quick pour the paint over her'."

Hugh Lewsley, an SDLP councillor, said the attack was a serious breach of the IRA ceasefire. Mr Lewsley, the victim of a beating over the summer after condemning IRA attacks, said: "It must be made quite clear that there seems to be an increase in Provisional IRA activity in the whole punishment aspect. I believe they now see themselves as a policing agent in West Belfast."

Sir John Wheeler, the Northern Ireland Security minister, said yesterday that terrorist punishment attacks were undermining confidence in the peace process. He told the Commons: "It stops the political development of the process and I use this opportunity once again to call upon all who have influence over these matters to condemn and to see that they are stopped."

Call to end oath taking in courts

By Frances Gibb

THE Government should consider abolishing the oath in criminal proceedings so that ethnic minorities are not disadvantaged, the Justices' Clerks' Society said yesterday.

The need for witnesses from ethnic minorities to take the oath — even though they can use their own holy book — can cause embarrassment and offence, the society says in a paper on "Black People in Magistrates' Courts". In some cases, magistrates have insisted that Muslims be asked to swear on the Koran. "This is potentially discriminatory and contrary to the Oaths Act 1978," the society says.

To boost recruitment of ethnic-minority magistrates, the paper recommends ethnic monitoring of magistrates' benches and of the committees which appoint them, perceived as "middle-aged, conservative white people who select clones of themselves".

It also urges monitoring of all ethnic minorities coming into the criminal justice system and also of court staff.

Inquiry ordered on the hazards of sheep dips

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

A STUDY into the safety of sheep dips has been ordered by the Government after claims by hundreds of farmers that exposure to the pesticides has damaged their health.

Angela Browning, a junior Agriculture Minister, said the £500,000 study would examine the "the possible long-term human health effects" of the organophosphorous (OP) chemicals most often used in sheep dips, which are related to nerve gases.

The research contract has been awarded to the Institute of Occupational Medicine in Edinburgh and will be carried out in three stages. The results will not be available until April 1999.

Annual sheep dipping was compulsory for 16 years until 1992, since when it has been voluntary. Sheep are immersed in a tank of chemicals to protect them against scab and blowfly, parasites which lower the general health of the animals and the quality of their hides.

Many farmers say they have suffered a range of ill-effects from use of OP dips, including muscle weakness, depression, blurred vision and speech and loss of motor control, even when handling the chemicals in the prescribed manner.

The Ministry of Agriculture so far has refused to accept any link between routine use of sheep dips and ill-health in farmers. If such a link were scientifically proved, the Government could face large claims for compensation.

Last May the Institute of Occupational Health at Birmingham University published a study which found evidence of mental impairment in 146 sheep farmers. The farmers performed less well in tests of mental agility than a control group of 143 quarry workers of similar background and lifestyle who had not been exposed to dips.

The study said it was "reasonable to conclude that chronic effects on the nervous system have occurred in this group of farmers and that these effects are likely to be associated with long-term exposure to organophosphates". But it added that the effects were "subtle in nature" and unlikely to show up as clinical symptoms.

The National Farmers' Union wants to protect its members but is worried that they themselves could be sued for damages by their farmworkers if OP dips are proved to be causing ill-health.

Stephen Rossides, head of the NFU's livestock department, said: "A ban on the chemicals would not yet be appropriate. But a minority of farmers do seem to be susceptible to OPs and they should use the alternative chemicals now on the market, even though these are not as effective.

"This is an important animal health, as well as human health, issue. Since compulsory dipping ended, we have received a lot of reports from farmers who say sheep scab is on the increase and getting out of control in many areas."

Heseltine

Continued from page 1

full round of engagements in the weeks leading up to the operation. On Tuesday Mr Heseltine presented the British Fashion Awards in London, after he had stood in for the Prime Minister at Question Time. Many Tory backbenchers remarked that he had appeared to be off form in the Commons and that his hands had been trembling during exchanges.

Last night Mr Heseltine was delivering a speech to the Hong Kong Development Council at the Dorchester Hotel in London. A spokesman for him said: "Mr Heseltine is feeling fine, and sparkling even."

☐ No detailed statement was issued after Mr Heseltine suffered a coronary thrombosis while in Italy, but he seems to have made a good recovery and he gives no indication of suffering either from heart strain or angina (Dr Thomas Stuttaford writes).

Doctors are reluctant to carry out elective, non-emergency, surgery for about six months after a heart attack. After this, provided that there is no evidence of heart failure and his condition is stable, surgery should not present any serious problems.

Race must not be issue, says Major

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

JOHN MAJOR lectured the Cabinet against "playing the race card" yesterday as ministers approved the inclusion of about a dozen main Bills in the Queen's Speech setting out the legislative programme for the new session of Parliament starting next month.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, dominates the new programme with three Bills, one of which clamps down on asylum applications and seeks to curb illegal immigration.

But amid controversy over Mr Howard's proposals, Mr Major made clear that while he supported them and believed they would improve race relations, he had no time for political rhetoric that, even by implication, sought an electoral dividend from exploiting racial prejudice. Ministers were said to be struck by the force of his intervention.

Mr Howard was said to be deeply annoyed at what he believes is misleading media speculation and misrepresentation of the proposals.

The two other Home Office Bills will give MI5 powers to assist the police in fighting organised crime and change the rules on disclosure of evidence to meet police concerns that present arrangements are weighted in favour of the defence.

Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, will bring forward a Broadcasting Bill relaxing the rules cross-media ownership, setting up digital television and selling off the BBC's transmission services.

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, will table two Bills to introduce vouchers for nursery schools and to extend the borrowing powers of grant-maintained schools.

☐ Senior Tories have told Kenneth Clarke that boosting the housing market is more vital than tax cuts to revive the Government's fortunes before the General Election. The Chancellor faces a round of campaigning by former ministers and Tory grandees calling for extra tax relief for first-time buyers.

DeFreitas wins cash for slur on loyalty

The England cricketer Phillip DeFreitas yesterday accepted "substantial" undisclosed libel damages, thought to exceed £50,000, over a magazine article questioning his commitment.

The settlement with the publishers and editor of *Wisden Cricket Monthly* came ten days after Devon Malcolm, Mr DeFreitas's Derbyshire colleague, who is touring South Africa with the England team, accepted damages over the same article.

Paul Hackney, solicitor for Mr DeFreitas, 29, told Mr Justice Morland in the High Court that his client found the allegations made in the article entirely untrue, racist and highly offensive. The article questioned his suitability to be selected for England, his patriotism and his loyalty. It suggested that England players of overseas origin would lack commitment.

Oxford inquiry

Oxford University's Student Union president yesterday launched an investigation into alleged financial misconduct by his predecessors. Adam Shapiro said he was concerned about claims that the union executive in 1993-94 misused money to fund political activism. University proctors were also studying allegations of irregular payments.

Plea on policies

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, last night made an impassioned plea to politicians of all parties not to treat the electorate "as if the main purpose of life is *shopping*". In an address in Rochdale, Dr Carey also reiterated the importance of family life and called for political policy-making to have an *explicit* moral purpose.

PCs accused

Two police officers are to face disciplinary charges of neglect after failing to spot the the body of a woman lying dead in her crashed car. Sally London, 40, was found nearly 36 hours later by a passer-by at Ridgmont, Bedfordshire. The two constables, Robert McGee and Shaun Timmins, were suspended on full pay after the incident last May.

Charges dropped

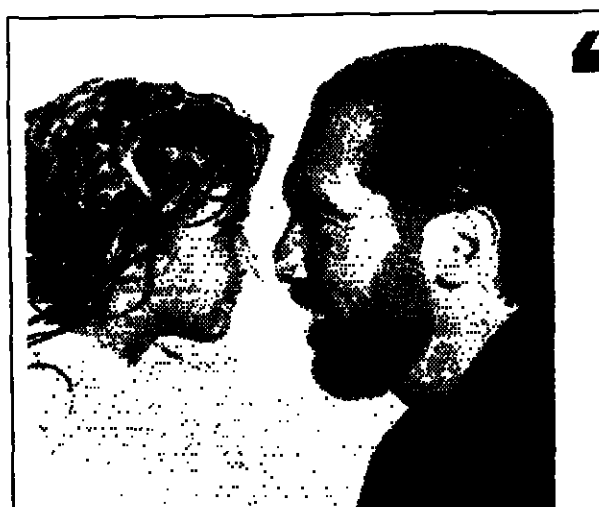
Charges against a police officer and an art dealer accused of looting ancient Egyptian tombs were formally dropped at Horseferry Road Magistrates Court yesterday after jurisdictional problems. Detective Constable Roger Box, 45, of Gloucester police and Andrew May, 37, had been charged with conspiring to handle stolen antiques.

Search for girl

Police have launched a nation-wide hunt for a seven-year-old girl missing since Tuesday morning. Lauren White disappeared from her home in Manchester after an argument between her parents. The girl's father, Keith, walked out of the house in Hyde an hour before she went missing at 6.30 am and it is not clear if the pair are together.

Draining duty

A policeman stood guard over a land mine for more than five hours until it was discovered that the device was a drain cover. Constable Terry Chard, 30, was called to a beach on the Isle of Wight after a man spotted the round black object. He stood there in the rain and wind until an army bomb disposal team arrived from the mainland and identified it.



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Leukaemia girl rejected for transplant says new technique was worth any suffering

NHS lets children follow path of hope begun by child B

By Dominic Kennedy

THE experimental cancer treatment given privately to "Child B" is now being offered to other children on the National Health Service.

As 11-year-old Jaymee Bowen returned to the private Portland Hospital in London yesterday for 48 hours, British doctors were preparing to widen the use of the promising technique which has brought her remission from leukaemia.

The first child to get the treatment on the NHS is at the Royal Marsden NHS Trust in the capital. More are to follow in an initial test. If they appear to recover, the technique will be widely tested throughout the country, offering hope to other leukaemia sufferers.

Jaymee's father David, a 32-year-old computer systems designer, told BBC's *Panorama* broadcast last night: "At the end of the day, I hope I have made the right decision. I hope that, if she passes on, she can look from wherever she is and say 'My father did the best for me'.

"If she can say that, that's fine for me. I have done my part."

Mr Bowen: daughter has extra time

Jaymee went into the private sector after the Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commission refused to pay for her to have a second bone marrow transplant. There was no recorded case in the world of a patient surviving such treatment.

Once out of the NHS, she never had the transplant. Instead, she was treated with a highly experimental technique, donor lymphocyte infusion, which has been used in the United States. This involves clearing leukaemia cells from a patient using chemotherapy, then flooding the body with healthy donated blood.

Jaymee's nine-year-old sister Charlotte was chosen as the donor after a search failed to find an alternative candidate. The idea was for Charlotte's healthy white blood cells to fight her sister's leukaemia. The treatment has succeeded so far, but Jaymee still has only a 20 to 30 per cent chance of prolonged remission or cure.

The Royal Marsden Hospital in London was already experimenting with this method on the NHS when Jaymee's case was considered early in the year, but had tried it only on adults. Jaymee had been given eight weeks to live when her father took the health authority to court in March, in a failed attempt to force it to pay for her treatment.

The child told the programme that, had she realised she was the unnamed "Child B" during the legal struggle, she would have asked for more chemotherapy and life-saving help from doctors. She went on: "I would have gone to court and stood there right in front of them and said, no matter what it takes, I'm going to go through this and I'm going to get better.

Jaymee Bowen with *Panorama* reporter Sarah Barclay, who said: "She has wisdom beyond her years"

"I would rather have gone through more suffering to live than to not go through anything and die. Of course there are some children who wouldn't do that — but I'm not one of them."

Jaymee, who was shown on television with her head shaven trying to keep in high spirits despite the unpleasant treatment, admitted as she looked at a bag of her sister's blood cells: "I'm always scared when I see something new. Every time I have had an operation I wonder the same thing. Am I going to wake up? Will I ever see light again?"

Her divorced father said: "It's difficult not to cry when you know that your child should be technically dead and some way she has been bought extra time. She is getting a life now. Whether the treatment fails or not she has got several months of very good quality life."

Sarah Barclay, the television reporter who had to be prepared to film either Jaymee's recovery or her funeral, said: "She is a very intelligent little girl. In common with perhaps a lot of children who have been through that sort of serious illness, she has wisdom beyond her years." Professor Ross Pinkerton, head of the children's unit at Royal Marsden NHS Trust, defended his advice to Cambridge health authority against paying for Jaymee's treatment. He said: "We are not going to be right all the time. The advice that we gave is based on that primary goal which is not to harm the child simply because we all find it so difficult to let go."

Man used Internet to collect child porn

By Kate Alderson

A BUSINESSMAN who watched child pornography on a computer screen at home was convicted yesterday of possessing pornography received on the Internet and fined £9,000. Christopher Sharp is believed to be the first person in Britain to be prosecuted successfully.

The 48-year-old management consultant, who is married with two children, was arrested as part of an investigation into Internet pornography involving children, called Operation Starburst, that covered Europe, America, the Far East and South Africa.

As a result of police inquiries that began in America, Sharp's home and office in Manchester were raided in July and computer discs and equipment seized. The raid was one of 13 carried out by forces in Tayside, the West Midlands, West Mercia, Sussex, London, Nottingham and Staffordshire.

Police had disovered pornographic images on a paedophile's computer in Sussex and, while investigating contacts the man had made using electronic mail, discovered Sharp's name.

Sharp admitted at Manchester Magistrates' Court two charges of possessing indecent photographs of children under the age of 16. He was fined £4,500 on each charge, ordered to pay £35 costs and told to forfeit his computer equipment.

Parents' protests forces village head to resign

By David Charter, Education Reporter

THE head teacher of a village school has been forced to resign by parents demanding a return to traditional teaching methods and greater emphasis on the three Rs.

Nick Winning was appointed head of the 106-pupil Burghclere Primary School, near Newbury in Berkshire, two years ago but his plans upset a vocal group of 30 parents. He resigned saying that he could no longer take "personal attack and offensive correspondence".

Within hours, he was followed by Helen Griffiths, the chairman of governors, who said that she had stepped down "for the sake of health and family".

Richard Dove, whose ten-year-old son attends the school, claimed there was "a lack of a basic education" which led parents to act because they felt the head and governors ignored their complaints. He said: "There is not enough of the three Rs. I don't have time for this modern curriculum. I don't think the children were being stretched enough."

The parents wrote to Gillian Shephard, Education and Employment Secretary, complaining about standards at the school and claiming it was in "terminal decline". A spokesman for Mrs Shephard said that the letter was under consideration.

The campaign against Mr Winning began after an inspector's report in January said Burghclere was "a school in transition". The report, which was requested by Mr Winning in an attempt to answer his critics, said: "The governing body and head teacher provide sound leadership and a clear direction ... The quality of learning is generally sound, although some lessons have shortcomings in important areas."

Giles Tooley, one of the parents' leaders, said the report did not allay their concerns. He said that bullying had increased and children had become bored. "We felt so bad about it that we took one of our children out of the school and educated them at home. There was no willingness to take on parents' concerns. This has not been a personal attack."

Mr Winning wrote to all parents on the day that he stood down, saying that a group had constantly fought against his ideas. He said: "Unfortunately their efforts have often been negative, rejecting much of what is good and beneficial for the children. Furthermore, what you may be unaware of is that over the past year the campaign has been one marked by personal attacks towards me, together with offensive correspondence". He placed "a much higher value on the quality of my own life and that of my family than has been allowed recently".

Solicitor struck off for misuse of fees

By Frances Gibb

A KNIGHTED solicitor who misappropriated part of his firm's fees into a "slush fund" was struck off the Solicitors' Roll yesterday.

Sir Ian Seymour Collett was a partner at Birkett Westhorp & Long of Ipswich, in charge of the firm's shipping department. In 1992 he recorded that he had received £470 in notary fees when in fact he had received £2,065.30. In 1993, he recorded just £123 when he had received £3,036.

It was also revealed that a bill paid by an American client in dollars had produced an excess of £122.75 when it was exchanged in sterling. The excess was later claimed back from the client account by Sir Ian in miscellaneous expenses.

Sir Ian, 42, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, denied that he failed to account to his partners for funds belonging to or due to his partners; that he drew money out of the client account; that he utilised clients' funds for his own purpose; that he misappropriated clients' funds and that he behaved in a way that compromised or was likely to compromise his good repute or that of the solicitors' profession.

Sir Ian no longer works at the firm and the money that was used for the "slush fund" has since been paid back. He was also ordered to pay £2,287.80.

TV wedding of year offers old church new lease of life

By Richard Duce

INCURABLE romantics, who may prove smitten by the wedding scene in the final episode of *Pride and Prejudice* this weekend, were yesterday invited to consider marriage at the same church in Wiltshire.

Angela Horn, who lives next to the 13th-century church of St Mary and St Ethelbert, said: "Romantic marriages next summer would be ideal. Every little penny helps to keep the church."

Mrs Horn, 88, a life member of the parochial church council in Luckington, near Malmesbury, Wiltshire, said couples should not be discouraged from marrying at the church where Elizabeth and Mr Darcy tied the knot for the BBC adaptation of Jane Austen's novel.

A spokesman for the Church of England was less enthusiastic, however. "Only people who reside in the area have the right to marry at a parish church. Anyone else should apply for a special licence, and I don't think that just because somewhere is pretty is reason enough."

Luckington's church was established in 1200

Mrs Horn's Queen Anne house, Luckington Court, was used as Elizabeth Bennet's family home of Longbourn in the series. She allows visitors in the gardens on Wednesday afternoons and has an open day on May 12 each year.

Mrs Horn, the sister of the late Lord Glentoran, has lived at Luckington Court for 50 years. Her husband, Lieutenant-Colonel Trevor Horn, died almost 30 years ago. "I had the choice of selling up and becoming rich or staying on and living on a shoestring. I chose the latter," she said. The church, said to have been built by a monk from Malmesbury in about 1200, was renovated substantially during the late 19th century. Pevsner's architectural guide describes the 13th-century doorway and tower as "simple", although two lancet windows are said to be "fine and distinguished". The building is closed during the week although a key can be made available on request.

Luckington, with a population of 400, is already experiencing an influx of visitors. Judith Sykes, the village postmistress, said yesterday: "People from outside the area are now coming to the village which is quite unusual."

Homage is also expected to be paid to Lyme Park in Cheshire, which portrays Mr Darcy's Derbyshire stately home of Pemberley in the series, and the National Trust village of Lacock, Wiltshire, which became the fictional *Meryton*.

Peter Brooke, page 20
Letters, page 21

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Candidate for marginal urged to withdraw over South African past

Labour backs man held by Pretoria over 1964 bombing

By James Landal and Inigo Gilmore in Johannesburg

LABOUR yesterday rejected calls to withdraw its parliamentary candidate for Exeter, who has admitted taking part in bombings in South Africa.

John Lloyd, a 54-year-old barrister, was a member of the African Resistance Movement, a small group of intellectuals opposed to apartheid and which was responsible for a dozen bombings against symbolic targets such as electricity pylons and radio masts in the 1960s. However, a woman was killed and several people were injured in a bomb attack in 1964 on Johannesburg train station.

Members of the ARM were rounded up. On the basis of evidence from Mr Lloyd and one other ARM member who turned state's evidence, many served long jail sentences. One, John Harris, was executed after being convicted of planting the station bomb.

Mr Lloyd, who was not involved in the Johannesburg bombing, spent four months in custody. He said he was tortured by being made to stand for days without end. "They broke me down and I gave evidence against Harris under duress."

Harris: was executed over 1964 station attack

Mr Lloyd arrived in Exeter shortly after being released and joined the Labour Party. He was elected to Exeter City Council in 1981.

Mr Lloyd first stood as Labour candidate for Exeter, now a Tory marginal, in 1992, and this summer party officials investigated him after fresh stories began to circulate. A week before he was selected to stand for Exeter, he was interviewed by senior officials in London. The National Executive Committee ruled him a suitable candidate.

Hugh Lewin, 55, a former member of the ARM, said Mr Lloyd should not stand because he had betrayed his friends. "If someone is running for office their background cannot be forgotten or absolved," he said. "This sort of person should not hold public office or a public platform."

Mr Lloyd says he has made no secret of his past and that a vendetta is being waged against him. *Tribune*, the left-wing journal, has this week published a story on the affair.

Labour sources said that Mr Lloyd's past was known at local and national level in 1992 when he was first selected to stand for Exeter. They fully endorsed his candidacy because he and other members of the ARM believed in using violence only against property, and not against people.

Mr Lloyd said: "I was a very small fish. I was the bloke who drove the car, basically. I have always been up-front about my past and I am still a dedicated anti-apartheid campaigner."

Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, urged Tony Blair to drop Mr Lloyd as a candidate, saying that otherwise the Labour leader would confirm the impression that he was "soft on terrorism".

Keith Owen, chair of Exeter Labour Party, said Mr Lloyd had told members everything about his past and it had been known for years. "We are 100 per cent behind him."

GUY NEWMAN

John Lloyd, a councillor, was first endorsed when he stood as MP for Exeter in 1992

Labour's deputy in the dark about party's education

By Alice Thomson and Tim Jones

JOHN PRESCOTT, the deputy Labour leader, appears to have been frozen out of party policy decisions again.

It became clear yesterday that he had no idea the Shadow Cabinet is being sent back to school to learn how to run the country.

When questioned at a press conference about the £400-a-day courses at an elite business school in Oxford, Mr Prescott looked perplexed. "I know nothing about this," he said. When told about the courses, which teach leadership qualities and presentation and managerial skills, Mr Prescott said: "Everybody already understands my body language."

The courses have been arranged at Templeton College by Jonathan Powell, Tony Blair's chief of staff. The Shadow Cabinet will be instructed by former senior permanant secretaries and ministers, civil servants, captains of industry and management gurus.

Earlier this year Mr Prescott was also left out of a secret strategy meeting on economic and campaigning policy between the Labour leader and his top advisers.

Yesterday afternoon Labour officials explained that Mr Prescott has been excused from the classroom because he is busy on other matters and is already "very experienced". A Labour spokesman said the course would be unnecessary for either the leader or the deputy leader.

John Major joked about Labour's self-education policy at Prime Minister's Questions, telling MPs: "Labour's Shadow Cabinet went to good schools, yet they want to abolish them. They send their children to good schools, yet they want to abolish those. I now read that the Shadow Cabinet is going off the Templeton College for the weekend — Templeton College had better watch out for its future."

Donald Dewar, Labour's chief whip, who went on the first course this month, said it had been extremely useful. "This was a course tailored to the needs of a party preparing for government. I found it extremely useful talking to former senior civil servants, people with real experience of government."

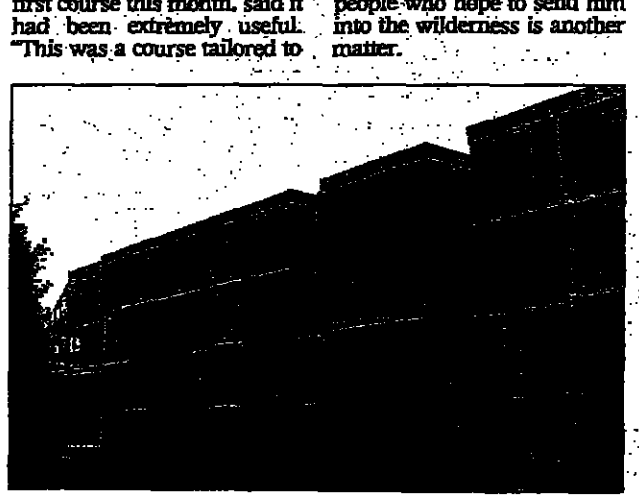
But Mr Prescott may be pleased that he is missing out. Rory Knight, the college dean, admits that Templeton College is run along tough lines and is not a junket weekend. The bedrooms have no television or telephones so students are not distracted. The Shadow Cabinet will also be encouraged to exercise in the gym in their spare time and challenge captains of industry to games of squash. Even the food in the college canteen avoids excess and indulgence.

Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, complained it was all a waste of money. "If they want to do something with their weekends they should be going round the constituencies and helping win the battle there," he said.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, who will be giving a speech at the college today to celebrate it being given a charter, said he was pleased that Labour was finally taking business management seriously.

Whether he will congratulate the staff on training the people who hope to send him into the wilderness is another matter.

Crest of the college run on tough lines



Templeton College, training the Shadow Cabinet

'Mad cow' link to two deaths

An 18-year-old man and a girl of 16 have died from Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (CJD), a brain condition that may be linked to "mad cow" disease. The degenerative condition is extremely uncommon in younger people.

According to a report in *The Lancet*, neither had been given courses of contaminated growth hormone, which is known to cause CJD. Nor was there any clear link to bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE) although the man had visited a farm regularly and the girl had eaten cow's brain, albeit in Cyprus.

Nurses' payout

Five black nurses who accused Walsgrave Hospital of racism won an out-of-court settlement of £35,000 from Coventry Healthcare NHS Trust. The five claimed a personality test discriminated against them. When ten white and ten black nurses applied for nine posts in a reorganisation, only white applicants were successful.

Silcott moved

Prison staff are reviewing the security classification of Winston Silcott, 35, who was cleared of murdering PC Keith Blakelock but is serving life for killing a young boxer at a party. Silcott has been moved from Swaleside on the Isle of Sheppey to Maidstone in Kent where many prisoners begin preparation for eventual release.

Diesel warning

Drivers of old and new diesel vehicles should leave them at home when weather conditions worsen and pollution levels rise, according to a government campaign aimed at reducing the death toll during winter smogs. Researchers believe diesel cars and bonfires produce soot that can trigger breathing difficulties and heart attacks.

Fringe benefit

William Bailey, 29, a petrol station attendant at Hatfield, Hertfordshire, was told he would have to cut his shoulder-length hair, shave off his goatee beard and change his John Lennon-style glasses to keep his job. An industrial tribunal awarded him £1,265 compensation saying that he had been unlawfully dismissed.

Rapist jailed

A Territorial Army soldier who raped an eight-year-old girl and blamed the attack on an imaginary friend was jailed for five years yesterday by Belfast Crown Court. David Moore, 25, of Lisburn, Co Antrim, had insisted that someone called Brian Campbell had raped the youngster in Lisburn in May 1993.

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Stone Age diet low in salt and fat

History provides essential lesson on healthy eating

BY CATHERINE MILTON, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE should turn the clock back 15,000 years and eat a Stone Age diet if they want to stay healthy, according to a leading anthropologist.

Late palaeolithic cuisine, with its emphasis on lean meat, uncultivated fruit and vegetables like nuts, berries and tubers, little or no cereal and no dairy foods, still perfectly matched our metabolic requirements.

"Most inhabitants of affluent nations really are Stone Agers displaced through time into the 'fast lane' — an environment foreign and, in important ways, hostile to our inherent physiology," Professor Boyd Eaton told a conference of the Royal Society of Medicine.

"Our ancestral diet is that for which our bodies were originally designed. Nutritional patterns common in affluent nations foster degenerative disorders ranging from coronary heart disease to dental cavities."

The conference, titled *Food, People and Health*, was told that our dietary downfall was sealed by the advent of agriculture. Previously man had been a hunter-gatherer, with a low-fat diet based around wild game. Professor Eaton, of Emory University, Atlanta, said: "Their intake of vitamins and minerals was much higher than ours. They consumed less fat and since they lacked salt for processing or discretionary use, their sodium intake was a fraction of ours.

"We remained hunter-gatherers up until the development of agriculture about 10,000 years ago. At that point, because of political, socio-economic and demographic forces, our ancestors gave up those foods they had been consuming and started to eat cereal grains and dairy foods."

Professor Eaton said communities that changed to the new agricultural way of life were able to support larger populations. "That had nothing to do with carefully selecting a diet. It was about sustaining yourself politically in the area that you lived."

Since then, he said, well-off humans had indulged in over-indulgent food while the poor had starved. In Britain, wartime rationing had provided a nutritional improvement but that was shortlived and gave way to the soaring popularity of fatty and sugary foods.

Early man's diet excluded dairy foods

Fish and chips were the precursor to fast food, which spread with hamburger bars and pizzerias. Convenience food arrived in the 1950s and the market for ready-cooked meals now exceeds £300 million a year. Changes in diet have been accompanied by a rise in heart disease, which was claiming more than 200,000 victims a year in Britain by the 1970s.

Professor Eaton said the late palaeolithic diet was likely to benefit those suffering heart disease and serious obesity. Those loath to take to the countryside with spears could use poultry, fish and shellfish as substitutes for wild game.

"The new emphasis on fresh vegetables is a step in the right direction," Professor Eaton said. "Also, in Britain and Australia there is a big move by the beef industry to develop lean meat which is comparable in its nutritional properties to wild game." But he added: "We are not exercising enough, we are smoking too much and we are not eating in the way that our genetically determined biochemistry and physiology requires."

The British Nutrition Foundation, however, said that despite the bad diets of many people, modern food was still essentially nutritious.

Leading article, page 21

Killer mother says plea for help was brushed aside

BY A STAFF REPORTER

CELIA BECKETT, who killed one daughter and poisoned another, says that she pleaded for help from social workers but was refused.

Nottinghamshire social services department is completing an internal investigation into its handling of the case and has asked for an independent report.

Yesterday Mrs Beckett, 34, of Newark-on-Trent, was found guilty at Nottingham Crown Court of poisoning her daughter Debbie, 2, who survived the attack. On Wednesday she was convicted of poisoning and killing her daughter Tracey, 4. She had already admitted cruelty to Debbie. Mrs Beckett was sent to a bail hostel while psychiatric reports are drawn up.

Nigel Rumfitt, QC, for the prosecution, has accused social workers of serious errors of judgment for allowing Tracey back into the care of a mother who had already fed her a huge overdose of anti-depressant tablets. Three weeks later Tracey died of another overdose.

The police yesterday admitted mistakes in their investigation. The case came to light only after Tracey's body was exhumed last year, eight years after her death. Also removed from the grave were the remains of her sister Clare, who died aged seven after a mysterious brain injury. A charge against Mrs Beckett of causing Clare grievous bodily harm was dropped during the trial.

Mrs Beckett said in a television interview recorded before the trial: "I asked social services if they could place them temporarily with foster parents until I could sort my marriage out. This was Clare and Tracey. They said there'd be no need, just to pull myself together and I would cope. I pleaded with them to give me help and they refused."

Nick Marx, left, and John Aspinall, the owner, want to keep Howletts Park Zoo's tigers in a natural state

Aspinall's big cats 'too dangerous' to lift ban on keepers in the cages

BY LIN JENKINS

TIGERS at a zoo where a keeper was killed last year remain inherently dangerous, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday. John Aspinall, the owner, encouraged the animals to keep their wild instincts and fed them only every four or five days to mirror their wild state.

Mr Aspinall, 68, is appealing against a ban on letting keepers in with the tigers, issued by council officers under the Health and Safety at Work Act. He has said that he will close Howletts Zoo Park, at Bekesbourne, near Canterbury, if he loses the case. More than 190,000 signatures and 25,000 letters have been gathered in his support.

Hugh Carlisle, QC, for Canterbury City Council, told the tribunal at Ashford, Kent, that the owner believed people should bond with the animals soon after birth, developing a relationship on trust and affection, rather than training tigers by fear and reward using electric prods and pieces of meat.

The council's action was triggered by the death of Trevor Smith, 32, in November last year. He was killed in seconds when Balkash, a 500lb Siberian tiger he had known since a cub, suddenly turned on him. An inquest recorded a verdict of accidental death. Mr Aspinall imposed a voluntary ban on keepers going in with the cats. When he threatened to remove it, the notice was issued on June 6.

Nick Marx, head carnivore keeper, accepted there was an inherent risk in handling a tiger but "asserts a desirability that they remain wild and keep the instinct and ability to kill", Mr Carlisle said.

John Taylor, QC, for the zoo, said that in 38 years of entering enclosures with tigers, Mr Smith's death was the only incident. The hearing continues.

Sanctuary in talks over home for tiger

BY NICK NUTTALL

TESSA the Esso tiger may have found a new home. A wildlife sanctuary last night offered the animal and her owners a permanent residence.

The big cat has featured in several advertisements for the oil company. She has been living the life of a nomad since Marc Chandler, her owner, quit a west country wildlife park two months ago.

Tessa and the Chandler family's plight was highlighted in *The Times* yesterday. Dr Terry Moore of the Cat Survival Trust in Welwyn, Hertfordshire, said his charity had discussions with Mr Chandler yesterday.

The charity, whose patrons include Professor David Bellamy, have 43 endangered cats on the premises and hold local authority licences under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act. The Chandlers are currently in Bushey but find it hard to gain a permanent licence.

The charity has been in discussions with Esso to fund the move, likely to cost about £100,000. Dr Holt said Tessa's welfare was crucial. There are only 150 Siberian tigers left in the wild and about 650 in captivity. "Tessa is one of only around 12 stud-registered Siberian tigers in Britain," he said.

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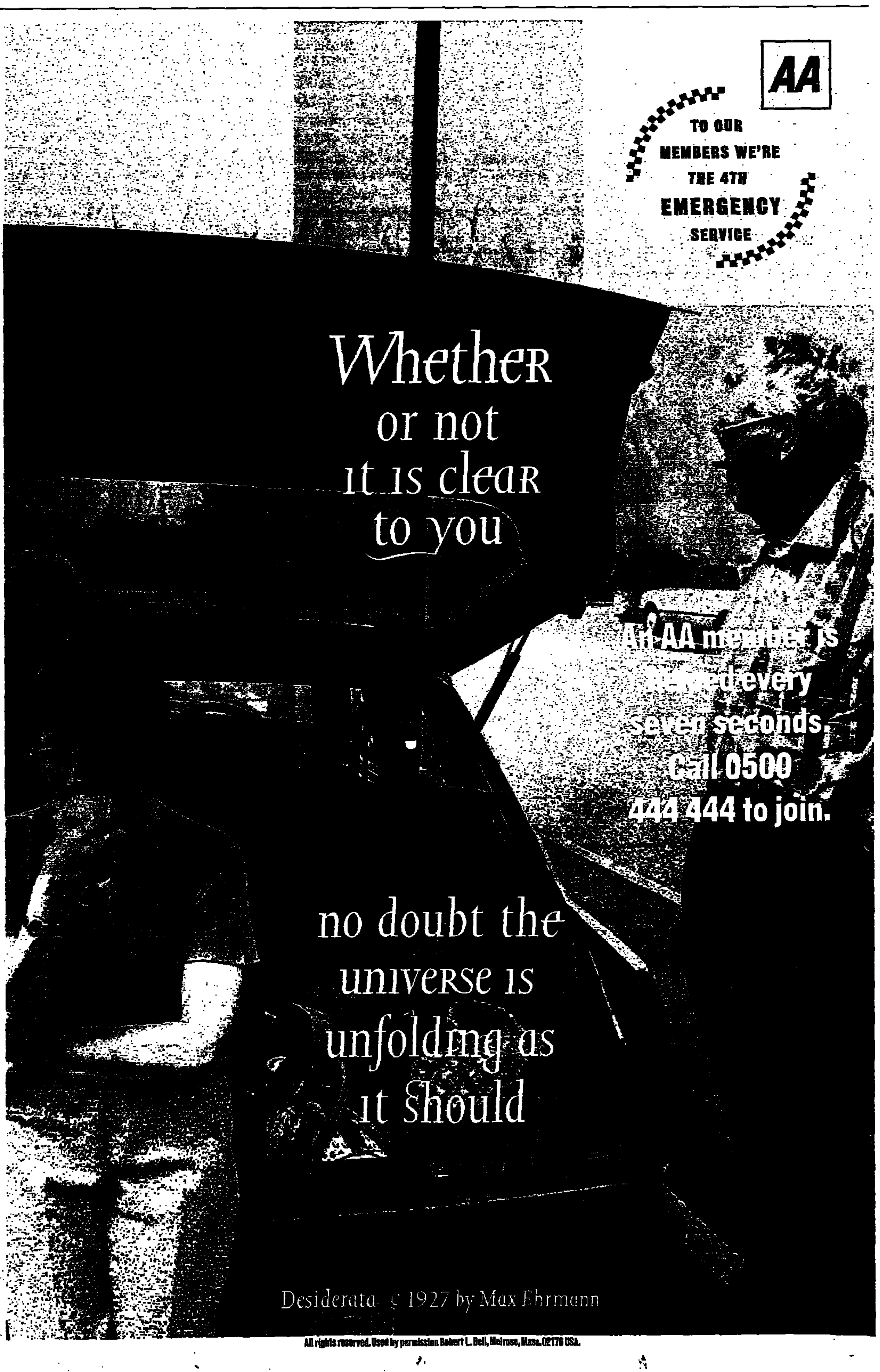
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'Sweatshop Britain' warning

Families and health hurt by culture of long working hours

By Nigel Williamson, Whitehall Correspondent

MOST white-collar staff work *more than 40 hours* a week, according to a survey published yesterday.

A quarter of the workers interviewed put in more than 50 *hours a week. Physical* and mental health and family life suffered as a result, according to the report by a recruitment organisation.

Ian McCartney, a Shadow Employment spokesman, *said: "This shows that Britain* is now the sweatshop of Europe. More and more people are working longer *hours* than *anyone* else in Europe. But working excessively long hours can be dangerous and places stresses on both employees and their *families*."

He said that workers were vulnerable to exploitation through fear of losing their jobs. Millions of working days were lost because of mental illness caused by stress and *unreasonably* long working hours was a main cause.

The charity Parents At Work has launched a campaign *offering* advice to companies and individuals on curbing long hours, becoming more efficient and introducing flexible working. The campaign warns businesses of the damage caused by an overtired and demoralised workforce.

Next year the charity will declare June 21, the longest day, as "go home on time day". A spokeswoman said: "We will be urging people not just to sit at their desks because that is what the company expects you to do."

Parents at Work *said that* it would be a long haul to alter the "long-hours culture" that the survey uncovered. "The report highlights a problem of which we *have long been* aware. It requires cultural changes and that won't happen overnight."

The report *The Family Friendly Workplace*, published by Austin Knight, was based on interviews with more than 1,350 white-collar employees. It found that 81 per *cent of men* and 56 *per cent* of women work 40 hours or more a week, and 37 per cent of men work more than 50 hours.

Seventy-six per cent of workers said that long hours adversely affected their physical wellbeing and 56 per cent said their personal life suffered. *Half the men said their work* performance suffered. Three times as many women workers as men were divorced or separated.

Nine out of ten employers said they were concerned that long hours could reduce performance and lower morale. Yet management drove itself *harder than anyone. Among* senior staff, 45 per cent of men worked 50 or more hours a week.

Anne Riley, chief executive *officer of Austin Knight, said:* "Employers face serious long-term problems unless action is taken now to combat the culture of long working hours, *which can have such a devastating impact*."

Touchers may get the elbow

By Philip Bassett

TOUCHING *people* at work is acceptable and, if done in the right way, can pay dividends, personnel officers will be told today.

It is, *according to Allan* Pearse, an Australian communications *specialist*, "a powerful way to gain someone's co-operation". However, he will tell the Institute of Personnel and Development's *annual* conference *in* Harrogate, "it has to be non-threatening and so subtle *that the other person hardly* notices it".

Mr Pearse, whose books on body language have been published in 32 languages, *proposes a three-point plan* for people in cultures such as Britain, where touching is discouraged.

☐ Nod your head as you talk.

☐ Keep your eyes below those of the person you are talking to.

☐ As you talk, brush your *hand against the point of the* other person's elbow for less than three seconds.

The former sponge salesman, who also became the *youngest person in* Australia *to sell more than $1* million of life insurance in a year, says: "The point of the elbow is a neutral area. We have tested out our three-point plan many times and we know it works."

He says his advice is especially helpful to women in Britain as they, more than *in America or Australia*, continue to be undermined by highly suppressive male behaviour patterns.

"Overt politeness towards a *female* colleague, like opening doors and pulling out her chair, are just ways of underlining her inherent helplessness and lack of *influence*." *Mr Pearse says*. "It's very difficult for a woman in that situation to take control and exercise her authority."

☐ *The conference was told* yesterday that John Major is not a leader, but a manager. Professor John Adair, an expert in managerial leader*ship, said that Mr Major* came to leadership by accident and that he would have been better suited to remaining as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

ANDRE CAMARA

Trial taste: Paula Carpenter thought the lolly disgusting but "boys will like it"

Crunch test for the young as worms turn into a sweet

By Kathryn Knight, Alexandra Williams and Nigel Hawkes

A NEW *test for teenage* bravado is on the way from America: a lollilop containing a "worm". The Tequila Worm Sucker Lolly is transparent, *revealing* a 1½*in beetle larva* inside.

Marketed for a primarily teenage and young adult audience, the idea is to crunch *through the lot without* batting a eyelid. Yesterday the idea brought a mixture of bemusement and revulsion to the streets of London.

The hybrid beetles are bred in America for input into the lollies, and are fed on a diet of rolled oats and vegetables. They are meant to have the *taste and texture of a roasted* peanut. Few consumers were *prepared to find out. One who* did, Paula Carpenter, 12, gave her verdict: "Disgusting — but boys will like it." The non-alcoholic lollipop around the *worm* was "*just like candy*".

Others said the idea was worse than the reality. Steven Routledge, 21, said: "It actually tastes like a thick noodle, a *piece of meat — it's more* the knowledge that you're eating a worm that makes it so revolting."

The idea is regarded with *amusement by some of the* more experimental gastronomes and explorers, who consider beetles to be nutritious and even delicious. *Worms, grubs and insect* larvae have graced human diet *since time immemorial*. The New York Entomological Society once had a dinner consisting largely of insects, including insect sugar biscuits. *Its treasurer, the spider* expert Louis Sorkin, said at the time: "Insects are high in protein and other nutrients and can always be found in large *supply*, so why shouldn't people eat them?"

The lillipop larva, from the *Tenebrio molitor*, is often used as petfood. The lollies *will be on sale by mail order* before Christmas, with three in a pack costing £4.95.

The idea may not end there. In America, new transparent *lollies* have crickets in the middle.

Croup sufferers breathe relief from steroid

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

This may have been the warmest October since 1657, but if the winter runs true to form coughs and colds will soon wreak havoc in nurseries, schools and at home. About 100,000 households will fear for the life of their young child *if he or she is predisposed to* croup and picks up one of the viruses that attack the respiratory system.

Croup is usually easy to *diagnose: a doctor has to* be in practice for only a matter of months before seeing a case, and thereafter will recognise it immediately on opening a *patient's* door. The noisy, laboured breathing of the sufferer, usually a child *aged* about two but of any age from four months to six years, reverberates around the house.

The parents are fearful as their child struggles to breathe, its complexion turning blue and its pulse rate racing. Respiration is fast and feeble.

Croup is caused by inflammation and swelling of the upper airway just below the voice box. This part of the airway is narrow in young *children. The average diameter* on a healthy three-year-old is 5mm so that an increase in the thickness of the mucosa of only 1mm will reduce its *diameter considerably*, making it inadequate to keep the child comfortably oxygenated.

The noisy breathing, technically known as stridor, is *accompanied by a* hoarse voice and a rasping barking cough. Although in respiratory distress and an anxious state, the child is otherwise well and the parents often comment on how suddenly the breathlessness started.

Though *comparatively easy* to diagnose, treatment has *hitherto* been *difficult*. The traditional regime was to humidify the atmosphere, possibly in a tent, and to give sedation and antibiotics. This was not effective because the child's terror was increased by being isolated from the comforting arms of *its parents*, in a tent with a kettle bubbling away. The sedation increased *problems with respiration* and the antibiotics did not help because the initial infection *is* viral. Children often recovered slowly or had to be admitted to *hospital*. Each year a few died of asphyxiation.

For many years *some* doctors reasoned that steroids could be the answer as the condition was *essentially* an inflammatory one. But this approach was *not licensed* until this year. Also, steroids by mouth can cause side effects and the injections are painful.

Recently Pulmicort budesonide inhaled with the help of a nebuliser has been approved and licensed for the treatment of croup. It delivers the steroid *directly to the inflamed* lining of the airway and is without side effects. This has enabled croup to be treated effectively at home, or if the child is in *casualty it can usually* be treated without having to be admitted.

A consultant paediatrician, *Dr Keith* Brownlee of St James's Hospital, Leeds, said: "In the nine months since we began using Pulmicort for croup none of the 20 children I have seen has needed admission to intensive care."

Dr Alan Goodwin, a paediatrician from Carmarthen, *Dyfed*, also *praised* Pulmicort but gave an important warning that doctors must be sure of the croup diagnosis. If the respiratory distress is a result of epiglottis swelling above the voice box caused by an bacterial infec*tion, Pulmicort may help but* the child will still need urgent admission *to hospital*.

Children with bacterial infections are obviously very ill, usually with a temperature and frequently dribbling as a result of their swollen, inflamed throats.

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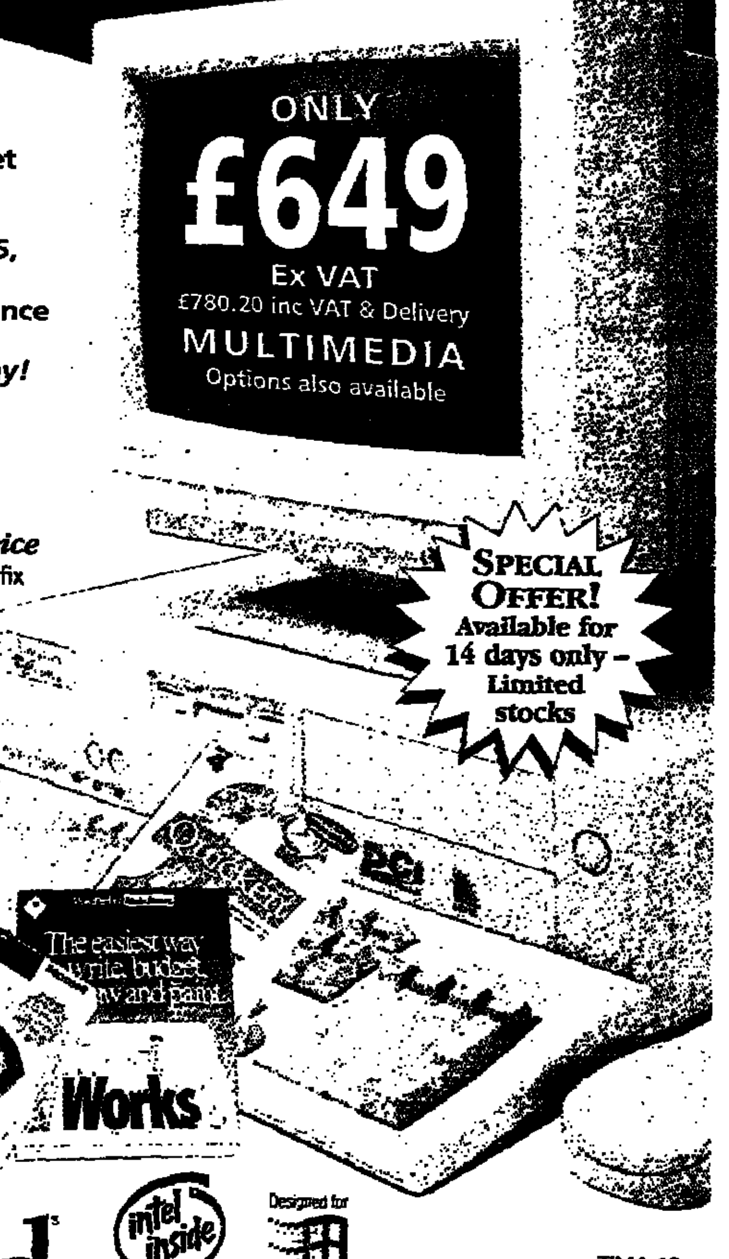

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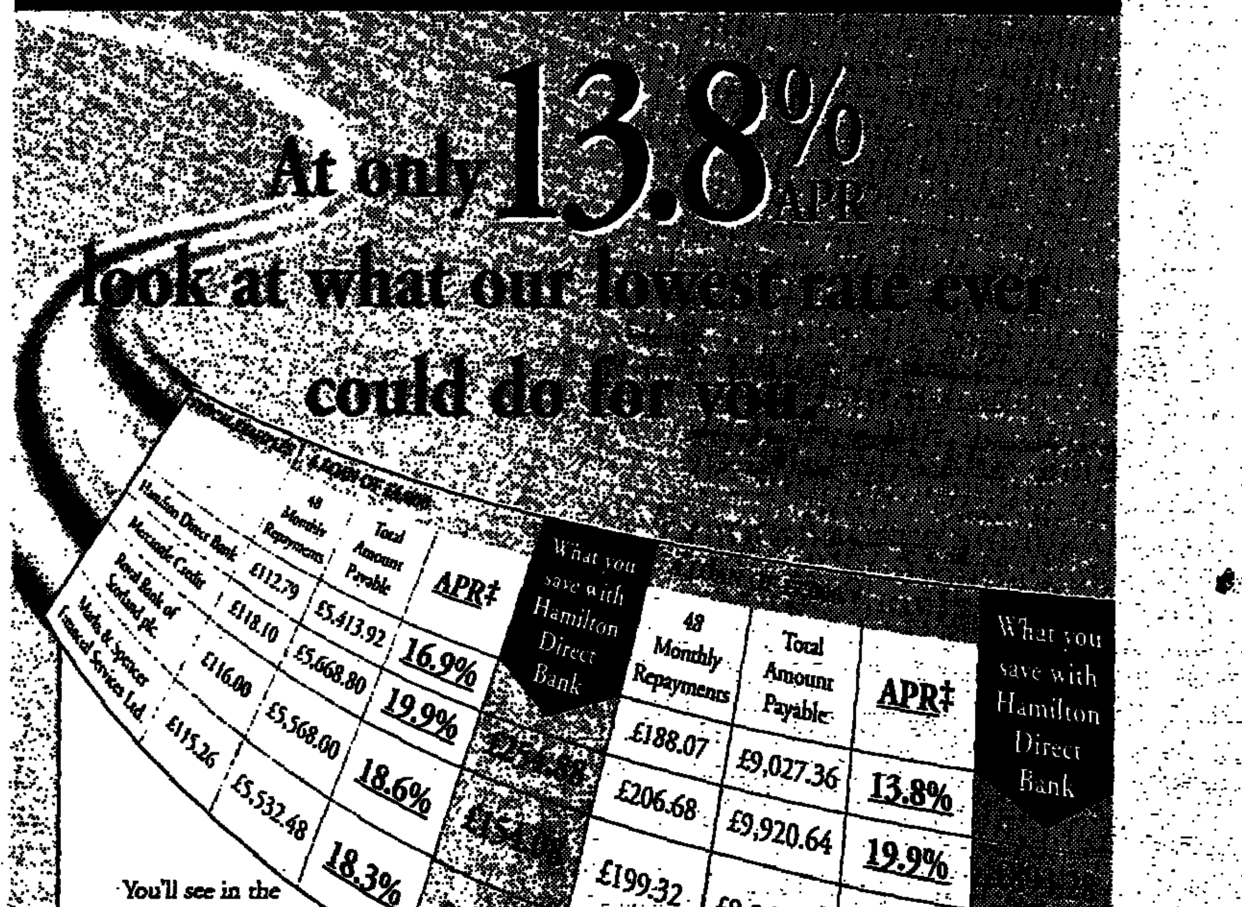
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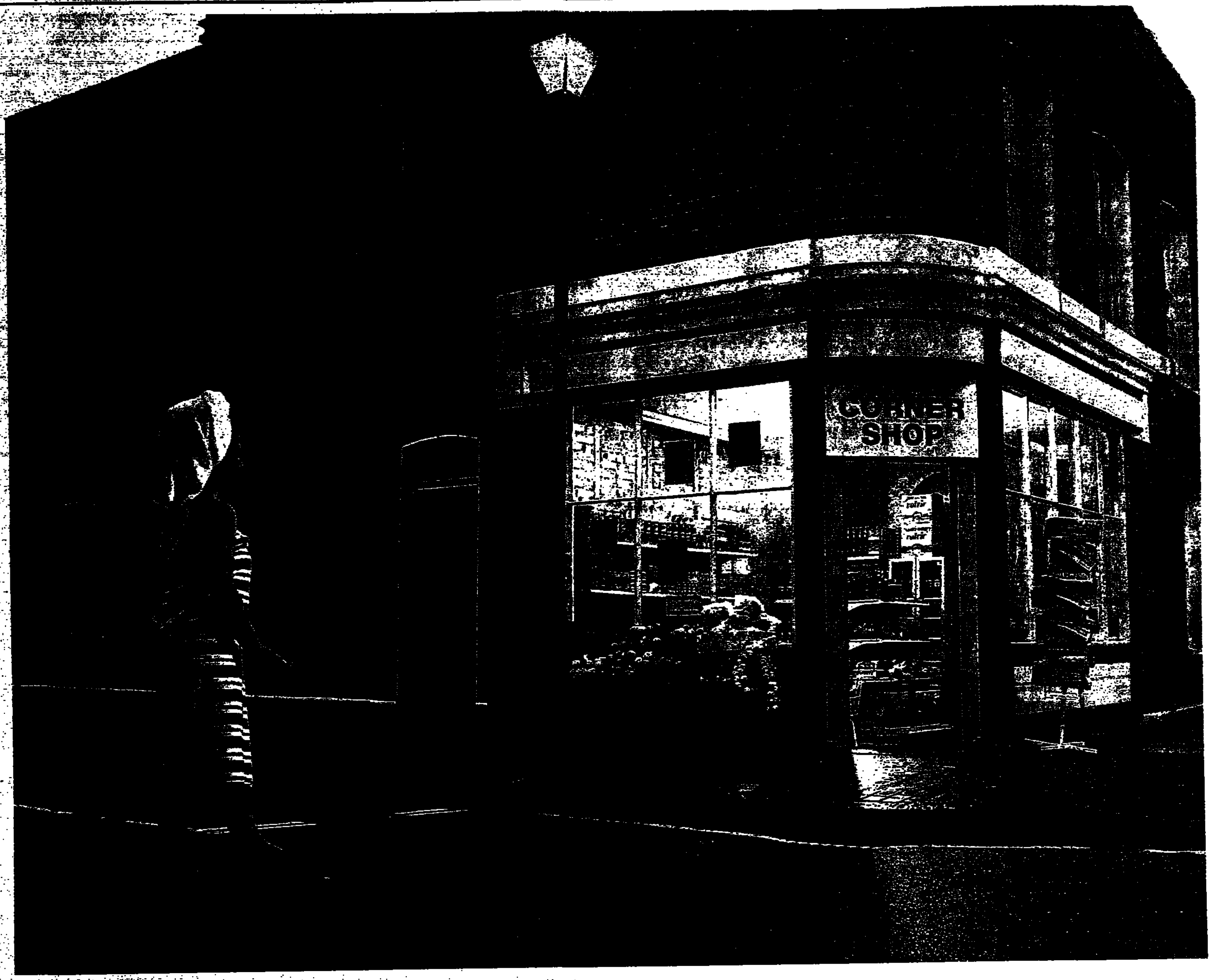

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Governor of open jail bought meter to test inmates for alcohol

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE governor of an open prison spent hundreds of pounds on equipment to test inmates for alcohol after some of them returned "the worse for drink" from temporary release. Prison rules state that while on release, prisoners must not enter licensed premises, betting shops or consume alcohol.

The decision to buy an alcometer by David Bamber, the Governor of Hewell Grange, a country mansion at Redditch in Hereford and Worcester, is disclosed in a report by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons that questions the legality of making inmates take the test.

Judge Stephen Tumim's report, published yesterday, says that inmates at the listed building had suggested that an absolute ban on the consumption of alcohol throughout, say, a four-day home leave made little sense. "It was also virtually unenforceable."

An alcometer can cost in excess of £700. It produces a print-out based on the person being tested blowing into it. The inspection, in April, found no bullying and a largely drug-free environment.

Judge Tumim's report is highly critical of some aspects of the prison, which he says is the most uneconomical open jail in England and Wales with a net operating cost per place per year of £18,841. That is £6,789 more than the average cost of an open prison but £10,500 below the 1992 figure.

He found that on a number of dormitory doors prisoners had pinned handwritten signs bearing the words "Do not enter", and called for them to be removed. He also found filthy toilets and overflowing dustbins and rubbish bags. The prison was dirty, smelly and unhygienic.

It was suggested that up to 600 hours a week were spent by inmates on cleaning duties but the report says there was little to show for them. "Washing lines had been strung across some of the dormitories which added to the squalid impression. We found it difficult to believe that anyone inspected the living areas."

The report says that in spite of the jail's pleasant setting — Hewell Grange is set in 105 acres of woodland with a 24-acre lake — staff were downcast and displayed no great pride in their work. "Prison officers were to be seen about the prison apparently doing very little during the day, or, as in the case of those found opening inmates' letters, doing work that did not make good use of their training."

The judge calls on the Prison Service to assess whether the prison represents value for money.

Mr Bamber, governor for six years, responded by saying big savings had been made, the jail was no longer the most expensive open prison and it had the lowest number of absconders and failures with temporary release of all open jails between August last year and July this year.

Fielder: "excellent work"

Service to close 'thriving' prison

BY RICHARD FORD

A JAIL reopened in April last year to cope with the rising prison population is to close next year, in spite of a recommendation from Judge Stephen Tumim that its "excellent work" should continue.

In the report published today, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons says that staff, under the Governor Sarah Fielder, have created a thriving resettlement centre and a regime that focuses on challenging offending behaviour and preparing the 110 inmates for release.

The Prison Service said, however, that the buildings were too costly to maintain and hoped the work done at Oxford would continue at another jail. Oxford prison is the oldest in the United Kingdom, with a tower that dates back to 1071.

Many of the original buildings have been demolished or altered and the remainder are largely Victorian. It has had a number of roles, including those of a local prison and a satellite of Wormwood Scrubs. It was closed in January 1993 but by last year the rapidly rising prison population forced the Prison Service to re-open it as a resettlement centre.

Known locally as The Castle, because of its design, it is situated in the centre of Oxford and visitors enter through a gate and courtyard.

The prison is to be sold back to Oxfordshire County Council under an agreement reached in the 19th century. At one time it was being considered for use as residential accommodation for students.

JULIAN HERBERT

Oxford prison, which dates back to 1071, is said by the Prison Service to have become too costly to maintain

Pumpkin supply in abundance for Hallowe'en

BY LEYLA LINTON

PUMPKINS are plentiful in the run-up to Hallowe'en. At Safeway they cost 25p a lb while Budgens is selling large pumpkins at 99p each.

Smaller pumpkins are best for use in soups and pies because large ones can be stringy. Look for clean, well-coloured flesh that is unblemished and firm. Pumpkins will keep for months but slices should be used as soon as possible.

Announced promotions include:

Asda: satsumas 78p a kg, rump steak £6.59 a kg, rich roast coffee £1.15 for 100g.

Budgens: Bellamy's traditional crumpets 49p for 12, Sara Lee deep-filled apple pie £1.19, fresh whole rainbow trout £4.39 a kg.

Co-op: Jordan special recipe muesli £1.15 for 500g, Knorr stock cubes 69p, Ross low-fat oven chips 99p for 907g, tandoori rice mix 79p for 500g.

Harrods: Fourme D'Ambert cheese £10.15 a kg, fresh tuna £14.35 a kg, fresh swordfish £18.20 a kg.

Iceland: Birds Eye prime cod steaks £1.99 for six, Gino Ginelli tutti frutti ice cream £1.99 for 2 litres, Ross Chinese noodles 99p for 450g, large cornish pasties 69p each.

Marks & Spencer: Brie £1.09, chilli con carne £1.49, coconut tart £1.19; fish casserole £3.99.

Morrisons: fresh mussels 99p a kg, green grapes £1.52 a kg, Lurpak slightly salted butter 77p for 250g, Napolina pasta shapes 65p for 500g.

Safeway: satsumas 49p a lb, Safeway white split tin bread 48p for 800g, crispy vegetable salad 49p a ¼lb, Safeway large fresh chickens £1.65 a kg.

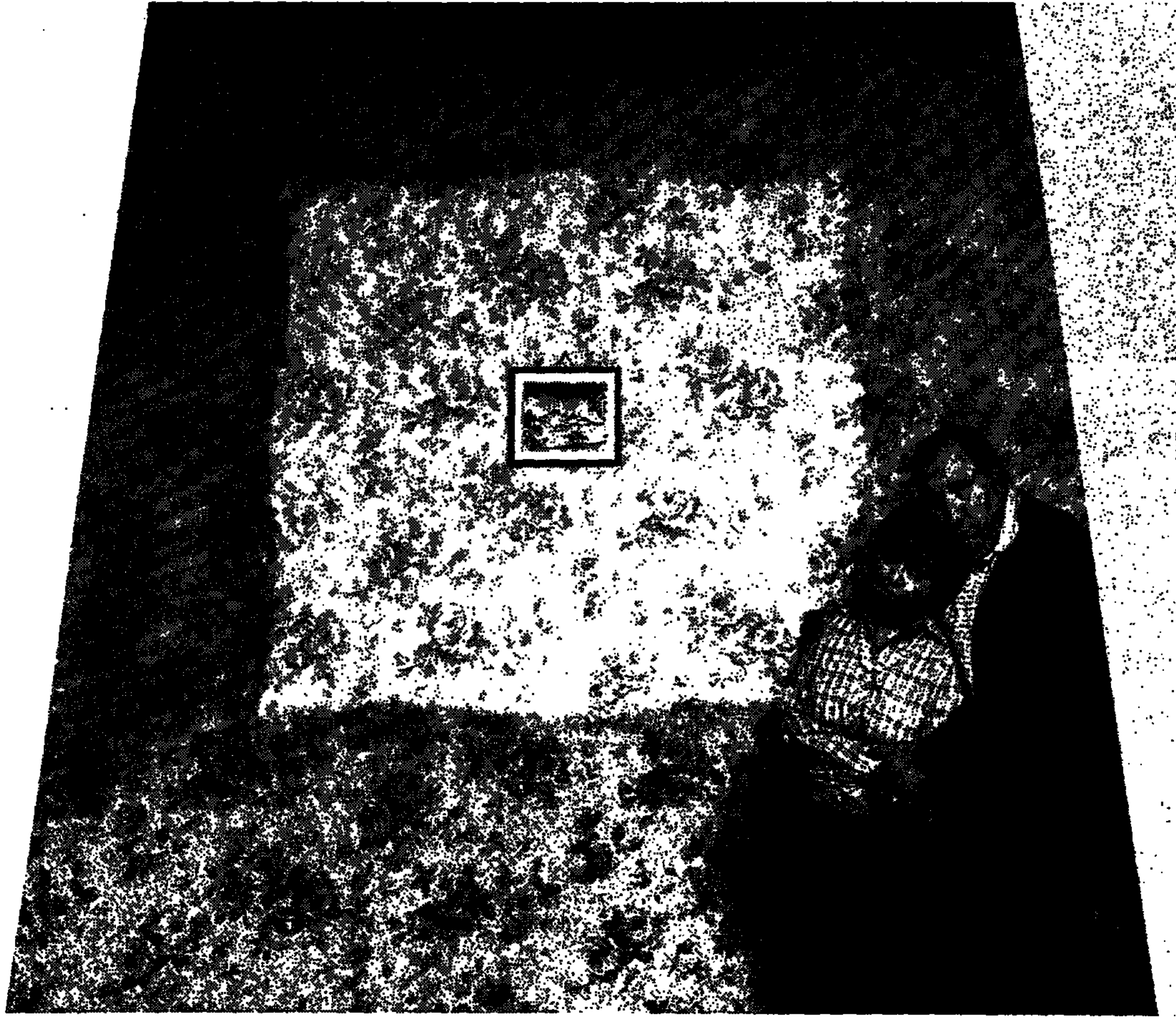
Sainsbury's: baking potatoes £2.69 for 5kg, haddock portions in batter £1.95 for 600g.

Sara Lee chocolate cheesecake £1.99.

Somerfield: deep-filled cod, prawn and broccoli pie £1.49, Mr Kipling cherry bakewells 69p for five, class A fresh boneless duckling breast fillets £9.99 a kg, Birds Eye Menu Master lasagne 89p.

Tesco: marble cake 75p, roast beef £1.25 for 100g, jumbo salmon steaks £2.95 a lb, cucumbers 35p each.

Waitrose: lamb casserole £3.99 for 850g, Nicola potatoes 99p for 1.5kg, low-fat yoghurt 89p for 4x150g.



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Liverpool council begins to sell civic treasures

Debt-ridden city accused over study trip to Ukraine

By Dalya Alberge
Arts Correspondent

LIVERPOOL City Council, which is considering cutting social services to pay off huge debts, is sending an environmental health officer on a fact-finding visit to Kiev to study alcohol abuse in Ukraine.

The Labour-run council's decision was condemned by Flo Clucas, deputy leader of the council's Liberal Democrat group, who ridiculed the debts — £800 million — as being higher than Albania's. She said: "Officers and members can go on conferences while kids in schools are getting sub-standard meals. This is down to total incompetence." She added that the council would have to cut £17 million in the next four months alone.

News of the trip emerged yesterday amid a dispute over the council decision to sell a pair of Regency wine coolers commissioned for the city in the 1820s. They are valued at about £50,000.

The wine coolers Liverpool is to sell at Sotheby's

Ms Clucas accused the council of cutting spending on housing repairs or residential homes while spending on foreign trips. The chair of social services is to attend a "healthy cities" conference in Portugal.

A council spokesman said it was important to learn from other cities to ensure "we are not always starting from zero in putting in projects of our own".

Ms Clucas also said yesterday that three members of staff had been suspended over "financial irregularities" involving large sums. A council spokeswoman said two, not three, employees had been suspended over financial irregularities. "We are not able to discuss details of the case at this stage," she said.

She added: "£800 million are the historical debts of the city. The budget deficit for 1994-95 is £17 million. A number of options are being looked at in cutting that figure. A special meeting takes place next Wednesday to vote on proposals. They include cutting school meals and repairs to council houses."

The mahogany and gilt-brass wine coolers, part of a remarkable set of Regency furnishings, are to be auctioned by Sotheby's next month.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the National Art Collections Fund, said: "Having applauded the restoration of the town hall's Regency interior, I find it incomprehensible that they are disposing of items commissioned for it. The furnishings, in their setting, are of huge national and civic importance."

The National Art Collections Fund has refused a grant application from the Trustees of the National Museums and Galleries of Merseyside for £25,0000 toward purchase of the wine coolers. Concern was also voiced that the rest of the town hall's collection is still at risk. Another proposal, to be discussed at next week's budget meeting, is to sell rare books that belong to the city, to raise a further £50,000.

Harry Rimmer, leader of the council, in a letter to Sir Nicholas, said that the decision had not been taken lightly.

Mr Pragiola: believes nobody cares how he serves a drink as long as it is a fair shot

Landlord fights the spirit of Euro law

A PUB landlord challenged European metrication laws yesterday after trading standard officers removed optic measures from his pub.

Luigi Pragiola continued to serve traditional sixth-of-a-gill tots rather than introduce 25 millilitre measures when the law changed in January. Now the Gladstone Arms in Peterborough cannot serve any whisky, gin, vodka or rum until new optics are fitted. Brandy is allowed because it is deemed to be a fortified wine.

Mr Pragiola, 50, landlord of the pub for 18 years, has vowed not to go metric. He said: "I'm not English, I'm Italian but I'm prepared to stand up for this country. Nobody cares how I serve them a drink as long as it is a fair shot at a fair price. What is the point of splashing out on new optics?"

A spokesman for the trading standards department said: "An officer has been to the public house and we are awaiting his report. The officer has discovered possible contraventions."

Killer driver jailed for 3 years

A HIT-and-run driver who went out bowling the evening after he killed a pedestrian was jailed for three years yesterday. Anthony Jackson, 23, did not go to police until 24 hours after the crash, despite pleas from family and friends.

He was taking two people to a pub at Utley, West Yorkshire, when he took a short-cut the wrong way down a one-way street, knocking over John Lund, 42, a father of two who was walking his dog.

Jackson abandoned the car in a pub car park after damaging the steering column and ignition to make it look as if the vehicle had been stolen. Mr Lund, a teacher at a special school, died from multiple injuries. His daughter found his body in the road two hours later.

Jackson, who has a 16-month-old son, admitted causing death by dangerous driving. He was banned from driving for five years and ordered to take an extended driving test before getting behind the wheel again.

Bradford Crown Court was told that at the time of the offence there was a warrant for Jackson's arrest on other motoring matters and he had had no driving licence, car insurance or road tax.

Warning issued on unstable fireworks

FIREWORKS that could explode if dropped or wrongly stored have been imported into Britain, safety experts said yesterday.

Fire safety officers said the Chinese-made Red Lion fireworks should be placed immediately in a bucket of water and left for 24 hours before being taken to the fire brigade for safe disposal.

The fireworks contain sulphur and chlorate, a mixture banned by the Explosives Act and the Health and Safety Executive. Seven container loads are known to have been imported and some have been sold in northwest England, on the South Coast, in South Wales and the Irish Republic.

The danger was discovered by trading standards officers in Liverpool during routine checks. The fireworks include rockets, jumping jacks, thunderbombs and garden selection boxes, all marked Red Lion Fireworks, Liverpool. The labels wrongly indicate that they are in compliance with the British Standard for fireworks. The importer, Kanash Ltd of Northern Ireland, has recalled all Red Lion fireworks to its specialist storage facilities at the Royal Ordnance depot in Chorley, Lancashire.

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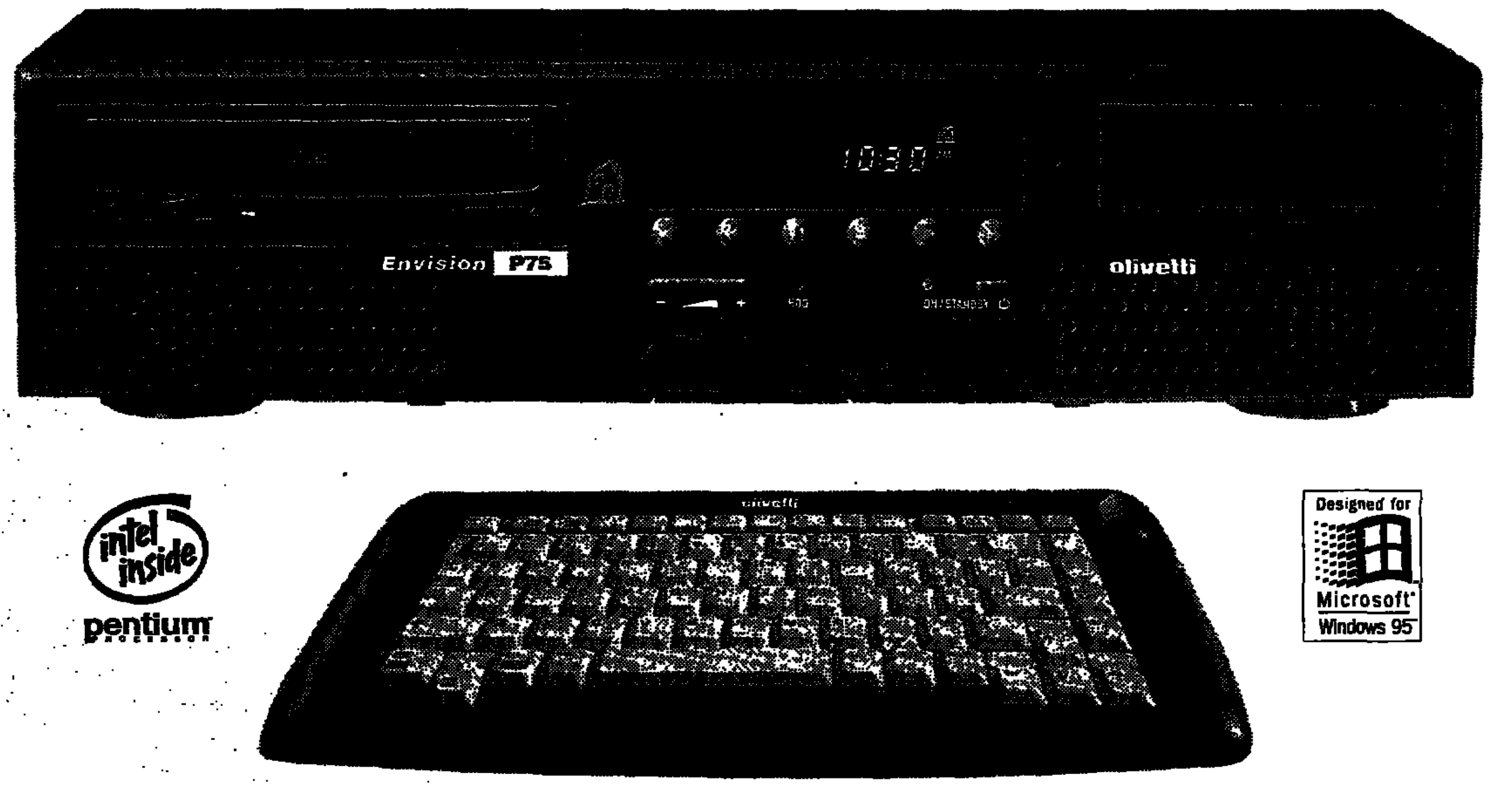
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Party's public image improves but more voters now believe the leader is too dominant

Blair's campaign success has drawback for Labour

By Peter Riddell

TONY BLAIR is succeeding in changing the public's image of Labour but at the cost of a sharp increase in the number of people who think the party is too dominated by its leader.

The latest MORI poll for *The Times* includes questions asked twice a year about party images. Labour is ahead on most measures. There has also been a slight improvement in the Tories' image since March, though the party's share of the vote has hardly improved.

The proportion regarding the Tories as divided has dropped from 47 to 42 per cent since March, with John Major's re-election as leader in July. But this is still nearly three times the level of five years ago, just before Margaret Thatcher was forced out of Downing Street.

This is the mirror image of the sharp drop over the period — from 35 to 15 per cent — in the proportion seeing Labour as divided. This switch is highly significant since the extent of a party's divisions has a big effect on its image.

The number of people thinking Labour has a good team of leaders has risen since March from 20 to 23 per cent, while the proportion viewing the party as professional in its approach has risen from 14 to 18 per cent. In both cases, these are the highest levels apart from the special circumstances of a general election when people tend to have stronger views about parties.

Mr Blair's campaign to change Labour has, however, resulted in a jump from 9 to 16 per cent in the proportion believing the party is too dominated by its leader. This is the highest non-election level since Neil Kinnock's rating in 1991-92. The findings suggest that not only is Mr Blair making a big impact but the party also appears to have a professional team.

Those who have switched from other parties to Labour since the 1992 election are more likely even than long-term Labour supporters to regard the Tories as divided and out-of-touch with ordinary people. But these switchers to Labour have doubts about their new party. They are more likely than long-term party supporters to believe that Labour is divided and will promise anything to win votes. They are also less likely than long-term supporters to believe the party will look after the interests of people like us.

Blair: poll shows big personal impact

A MORI poll last week for *The Sun* showed that, even though people were more impressed by the Labour than the Tory conference by a three-to-one margin, they still view the Tories as better able to control inflation and cut taxes.

The accompanying table provides a comparison of the latest findings with September 1990, the same stage of the last Parliament. Labour's image is better on almost all counts, particularly those to do with understanding and dealing with ordinary people's problems, having good of leaders and being professional. The party is also seen as less extreme than five years ago.

By contrast, the Tory image has declined even since the low point of party fortunes in September 1990 — in particular, having a good team of leaders, having sensible policies and on being professional in its approach. The proportion believing the party will promise anything to win votes has also risen from 35 to 51 per cent over the five years.

The main positive move has a sharp drop, from 57 to 10 per cent, in the number believing the party is too dominated by its leader. This follows the replacement of Mrs Thatcher at her most unpopular by Mr Major, who has never been seen as a strong leader.

There has been little change in the Liberal Democrats' image with two exceptions. In September 1990, when the party's fortunes were only just recovering from the post-merger rows, it was still seen as divided by 18 per cent, but this has since dropped to just 6 per cent. The number regarding the party as too dominated by its leader has risen from 6 to 11 per cent.

MORI has compared voting intentions in the third quarter of this year with the same period of 1990, when the Tories were very unpopular because of the poll tax. Labour's lead over the Tories was then 12 per cent, but is now a near record 30 per cent. The biggest changes have been in traditional Tory strongholds. Five years ago, the Tories still had a lead of 18 points over Labour among professional people and managers, of 9 per cent in southern England and of 5 points among owner-occupiers. But now Labour has a lead of 7, 15 and 20 points respectively among these groups.

CHANGE IN PARTIES' IMAGE 1990-95

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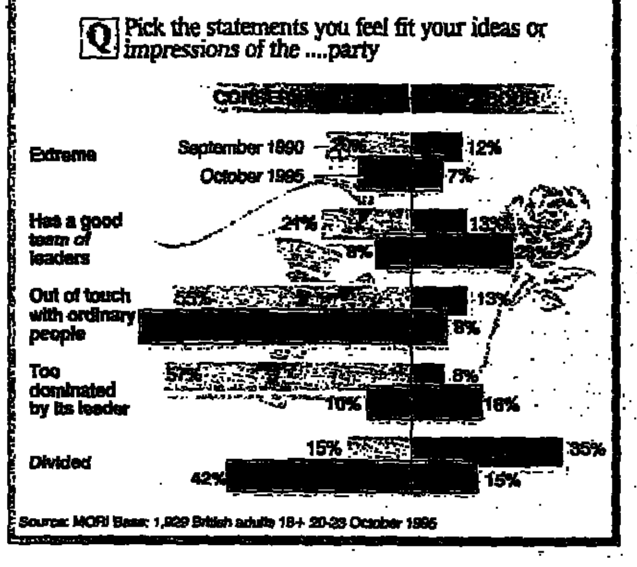

Source: MORI Base: 1,929 British adults 18+ 20-23 October 1995

Economic confidence remains elusive

THE public remains highly uncertain about the strength of the economic recovery, and still sees unemployment as the most important issue facing Britain today, according to the MORI poll (Peter Riddell writes).

The economic optimism index, measuring those expecting the general economic condition of the country to improve rather than get worse over the next 12 months, has been negative since August last year. It now stands at minus 16 points. This compares with minus 19 points at the end of last month and is in roughly the same range as over the past six months.

The highest level of pessimism is among those aged 18 to 24, unskilled workers, those living in Wales and Scotland, part-time workers, householders with children and those living in council housing. The stronger the loyalty to the Tories, the greater is the degree of optimism about the economic outlook.

The latest poll shows that about half the public regard unemployment as among the most important issues facing Britain today. This is followed by the health service, education, law and order, the economy, Europe, housing and social security.

Although 22 per cent of middle-class people regard Europe as among the most important issues facing Britain today, just 12 per cent of the working class do. The issue is also rated more highly by Tory loyalists than by those who have switched to other parties or those who have started supporting Labour since the 1992 election.

☐ ***MORI interviewed 1,929 people from October 20 to 23.***

LABOUR'S VOTING INTENTION LEAD

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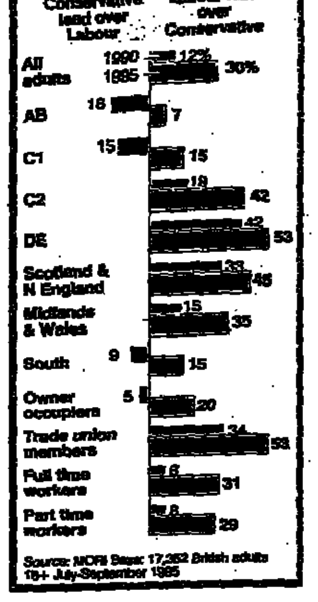

Source: MORI Base: 17,262 British adults 18+ July-September 1995

Cranborne takes biggest pay rise

By Alice Thomson, Political Reporter

VISCOUNT CRANBORNE, leader of the Lords and John Major's right-hand man during the Tory leadership campaign, has been been awarded a bigger pay rise than any other Cabinet member.

Lord Cranborne, who also led the organisation of this year's VE-Day and VJ-Day celebrations, is to receive a 3.3 per cent rise, taking his parliamentary salary from £55,329 to £57,161.

With the Government worried about allegations of sleaze and greed in Parliament and struggling to keep down inflation, all other Cabinet ministers have been restricted to the MPs' pay rise of 2.7 per cent. The rises take effect from January 1.

Lord Cranborne's increase of £1,832 exceeds even that of the Prime Minister, whose salary goes up by £1,539 to £58,557. But the leader of the Lords made it clear that this was in line with a pay formula agreed two years ago.

The Lord Advocate, Lord Rodger of Earlsferry, has the second highest rise, of £1,832, taking his salary to £57,241.

Lords ministers' salaries are generally higher than those of Commons ministers because they do not receive an MP's salary as well. Those in the Commons receive a reduced parliamentary salary of £25,660 in addition to their pay as Government ministers.

Cabinet ministers will have rises that take their salaries from £42,834 to £43,991; Ministers of State (£30,307 to £31,125); junior Ministers (£23,002 to £23,623). Tony Blair, the Labour leader, declined a 4.7 per cent rise last January but this year his salary will rise from £37,495 to £38,507. The Speaker's salary will increase to £43,991.

Backbench MPs are paid £33,189, rising to £34,085 next January but they also get expenses. According to Downing Street, the rise restores the link between MPs and civil servants that was broken a year ago when a pay freeze left backbenchers about £2,000 out of pocket.

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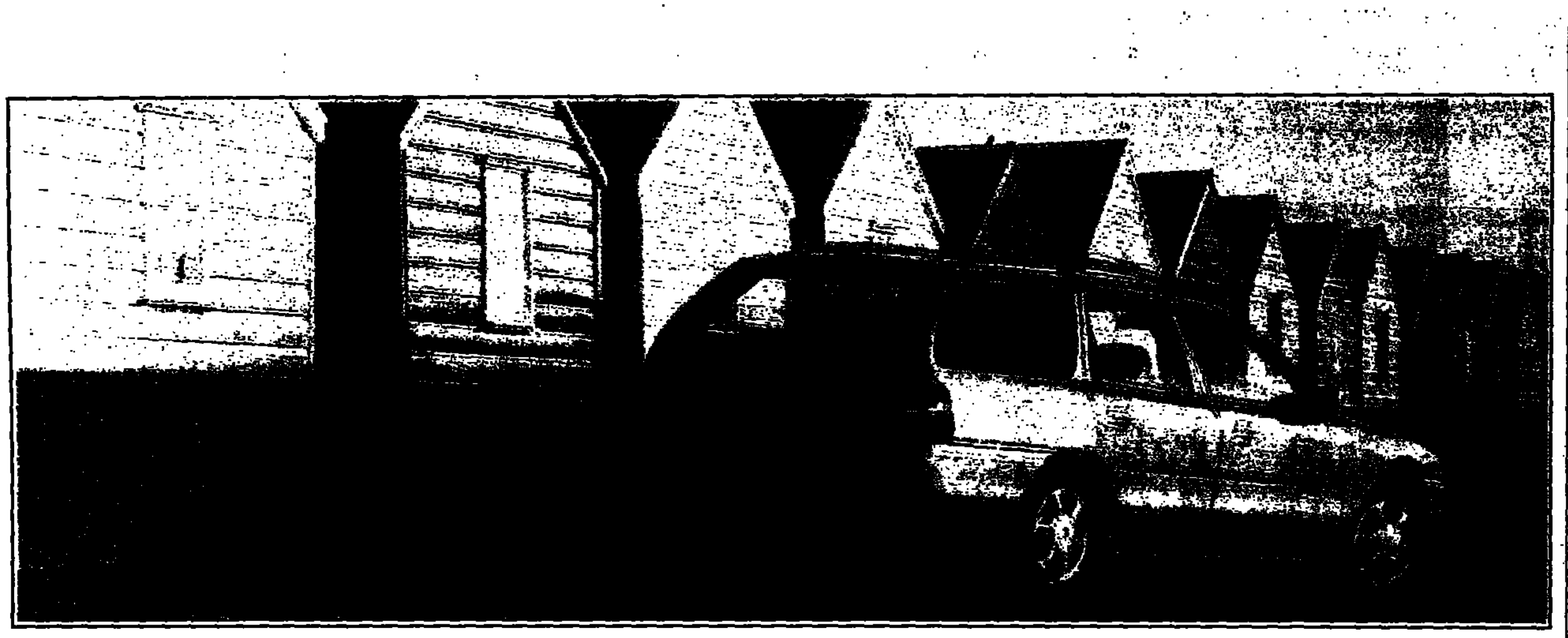

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Labour tells MPs to stay put for key Nolan debate

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership has told the party's MPs to cancel trips abroad next month to ensure their presence in the Commons for a hard-line campaign to force the disclosure of outside earnings.

A highly charged debate over whether MPs should declare such earnings is expected to produce a knife-edge vote. Backbenchers will clash over a range of proposals to curb non-parliamentary work.

Although MPs will be given a free vote in the debate on Monday week, Labour business managers are anxious to secure a full turnout to make sure that tough new rules are introduced. John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, is among several MPs who will have to cancel plans to go abroad.

Many Tories have opposed the Nolan committee's recommendation that MPs should have to disclose earnings from outside parliament that are directly related to their position in the Commons. Labour, however, believes that a big group of Tories would back plans to tighten the rules.

The debate will mark the first serious test of the two main parties' new Chief Whips. Alastair Goodlad, appointed by the Tories in July, will pit his campaigning wits against Donald Dewar, who became the Labour Chief Whip last week.

The debate will be made more complex because an all-party committee formed to clarify proposals remains deadlocked over how to amend the Commons rules. The committee's failure to reach agreement after a marathon session will mean a range of options being put to MPs, increasing friction among Tory backbenchers on how best to regulate disclosure of earnings. Members of the committee have been at loggerheads over how to ensure a clearcut decision.

Senior Tories on the Commons Standards in Public Life Committee have tried to persuade Opposition MPs to drop plans calling for non-parliamentary income to be publicly disclosed. The original proposals, put forward by the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life, would force MPs to declare earnings, in bands of £5,000, from businesses that have employed them on work related to their position as MPs.

The committee's failure to agree to a clear recommendation means that the disclosure question will be among a set of options put to a free vote. With a recent poll having suggested that a third of Tory MPs would support disclosure, Labour leaders believe that radical changes can be implemented by the end of the year.

When Mr Major set up the Nolan committee, he said that the Government would back its proposals. However, the intense backbench debate will place ministers in a difficult position over whether to support proposals so vehemently opposed by many Tory MPs. Although ministers insist that they will not try to guide backbenchers, a clear signal on the Government's attitude will be given in the opening speech by Tony Newton, Leader of the Commons and chairman of the Commons standards committee.

Senior MPs on the committee are expected to unite behind other proposals to limit the work carried out for lobbying consultancies. The committee, which is putting the finishing touches to its report, is expected to propose next week that advisory work for outside groups should be allowed but that MPs should be barred from advocacy on lobbyists' behalf, either through speaking in the Commons or tabling questions and motions.

Agreement on the lobbying issue is likely to solve the problem posed by the Nolan committee's recommendation that MPs should no longer be allowed to work for multi-client consultancies. MPs have argued that it would prove impossible to distinguish between outside work on behalf of lobbying companies and that carried out for firms of accountants and solicitors.

Prescott turns up heat in marginal seats

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR is to concentrate on 90 marginal seats over the next 18 months of the party's general election campaign.

Frontbenchers, other MPs and hundreds of volunteers will blitz constituencies throughout the country to get Labour's message across. Over the next year the party aims to speak to 80 per cent of voters in each target seat, either on the doorstep or by telephone. Voting intentions in the marginal seats will be recorded on computer files, which will be regularly updated.

The seats are being selected on the basis of whether they are marginal (where a 4-5 per cent swing to Labour is needed), and other local factors thought to justify a special campaign effort. Although most will be Tory-held, some Liberal Democrat constituencies will be included.

John Prescott, deputy party leader, who is in charge of the "Operation Victory" campaign, will fly to Australia tomorrow to glean electioneering tips from the Australian Labour Party, which has been in power for four terms. During a ten-day visit, Mr Prescott will meet Kim Beazley, the Deputy Prime Minister, and other senior government figures.

Yesterday Mr Prescott, who will visit all the target seats after his return, announced his 19-strong parliamentary campaign team. Each will be assigned a policy area and will regularly visit the seats.

Mr Prescott described his new team as the "nursery school" for the front bench: seven of last year's campaign team were given frontbench jobs. The new line-up includes several of the 1992 intake, including Glenda Jackson and Angela Eagle, and by-election winners such as Margaret Hodge and Judith Church.

Peter Mandelson, Mr Prescott's campaign deputy, said the party would be recruiting volunteer activists from the target seats and neighbouring areas. The activists would embark on an "unprecedented" training programme to improve their campaigning techniques.

Seventy-two candidates have already been selected in the 90 key seats including 35 women. They are now being given weekly national briefings, and will be given daily briefings nearer the election to ensure that the same message is being pushed throughout the country.

Right stays neutral in battle for 1922 leadership

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tory Right has shied away from backing either Sir Marcus Fox or Bob Dunn for the chairmanship of the 1922 Committee.

Mr Dunn's challenge to Sir Marcus posed a dilemma for the 100-strong 92 Group of rightwingers because both men are prominent members. Although the group's neutrality is line with precedent, it is also a modest boost for Mr Dunn, MP for Dartford, who is the underdog. The contest will be decided by a ballot of Tory MPs next month.

At a dinner attended by about 60 MPs on Wednesday, the 92 Group rebuffed an attempt by Sir George Gardiner, its outgoing chairman, to withdraw support for those rightwingers who are retiring at the general election. After an ill-tempered debate, Sir George was forced to withdraw a proposal that the 92's "sound slate" of candidates for the 18-strong executive should contain only MPs intending to run again.

A place on the slate is highly prized because it influences many centrist MPs. Sir George hoped that his idea would inject "new blood" into the executive and strengthen the grip of hardline Thatcherites, but his scheme was regarded as divisive and abandoned without a vote.

The Right will, however, attempt a clean sweep of the senior posts. John Townend, MP for Bridlington, is to challenge Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith for one of the joint vice-chairmanships: Michael Colvin, chairman of the Defence Select Committee, will run against the pro-European Sir Giles Shaw for treasurer; and John Butterfill, MP for Bournemouth West, will challenge the Sir Peter Hordern for one of the joint secretaryships.

Its slate includes candidates for the 12 other places on the executive. The candidates were chosen by a ballot at the dinner and Mr Dunn, also defending his place on the executive, came second, suggesting he has widespread support on the Right.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY *In the Commons:* questions to Northern Ireland Ministers and the Prime Minister. Debates on the Mental Health (Patients in the Community) Bill, remaining stages; the salaries of ministers, Opposition Leader, Opposition whips and officers of Parliament; the Accommodation (Level Crossings) Bill, third reading.

In the Lords: debates on report *from the Select Committee on* Sustainable Development and the decision to close the accident and emergency department and acute *bed provision at Edgware General* Hospital.

TODAY In the Commons: 9.30am *sitting for a debate on sport opened* by Iain Sproat, the Sports Minister, followed by Tom Pendry, the Shadow Sports Minister.

The House of Lords is not sitting.

Mawhinney heralds election offensive on Europe

BY NICHOLAS WOOD

Mawhinney: attack

A FLAG-WAVING general election campaign in which the Tories portray themselves as the bulwark against Britain being dragged into a European superstate will be foreshadowed tonight by Brian Mawhinney.

In a statement of election strategy, the party chairman will indicate that after the sceptical shift inside the Cabinet, the Government has decided to make Britain's continental destiny an election battleground. Dr Mawhinney will use a speech to party workers in John Major's Huntingdon constituency to show ministers' determination to go on the offensive over Europe and to attack Labour and the Liberal Democrats as the parties that would betray national independence.

Mr Mawhinney, the Prime Minister and their senior advisers have concluded that Europe need no longer be a liability for the Tories provided they stick to the sceptical line adopted by Mr Major and endorsed this week by Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary and spiritual leader of the pro-European wing. However, the strongly sceptical rhetoric that will be used risks provoking pro-European Tories, bruised by Michael Portillo's party conference tirade against Brussels, and reopening old wounds.

The Tory high command also believes that it has found a chink in Tony Blair's armour after his conference speech in which he said he would never let Britain be isolated in Europe. It has been buoyed by polling research suggesting that hostility to further European integration is not restricted to Tory voters but extends into Labour and Liberal Democrat heartlands.

In his speech, Dr Mawhinney will fire the first shots in this campaign by claiming a clear contrast between the three parties over Europe. He will say that the Liberal Democrats are wedded to a federalist Europe and Labour to a centralist Europe. Only the Tories are committed to a Europe of independent nation states in which big decisions about Europe are taken in Britain.

He will accuse Mr Blair of sacrificing British interests to his quest for popularity. He will say: "What kind of leadership is that . . . that Tony Blair would put his wish to be liked before the interests of the country?"

Citing Margaret Thatcher's battles over the budget rebate and John Major's social chapter opt-out, Dr Mawhinney will say that history shows that only by being prepared to be isolated in Europe can the Government defend British interests.

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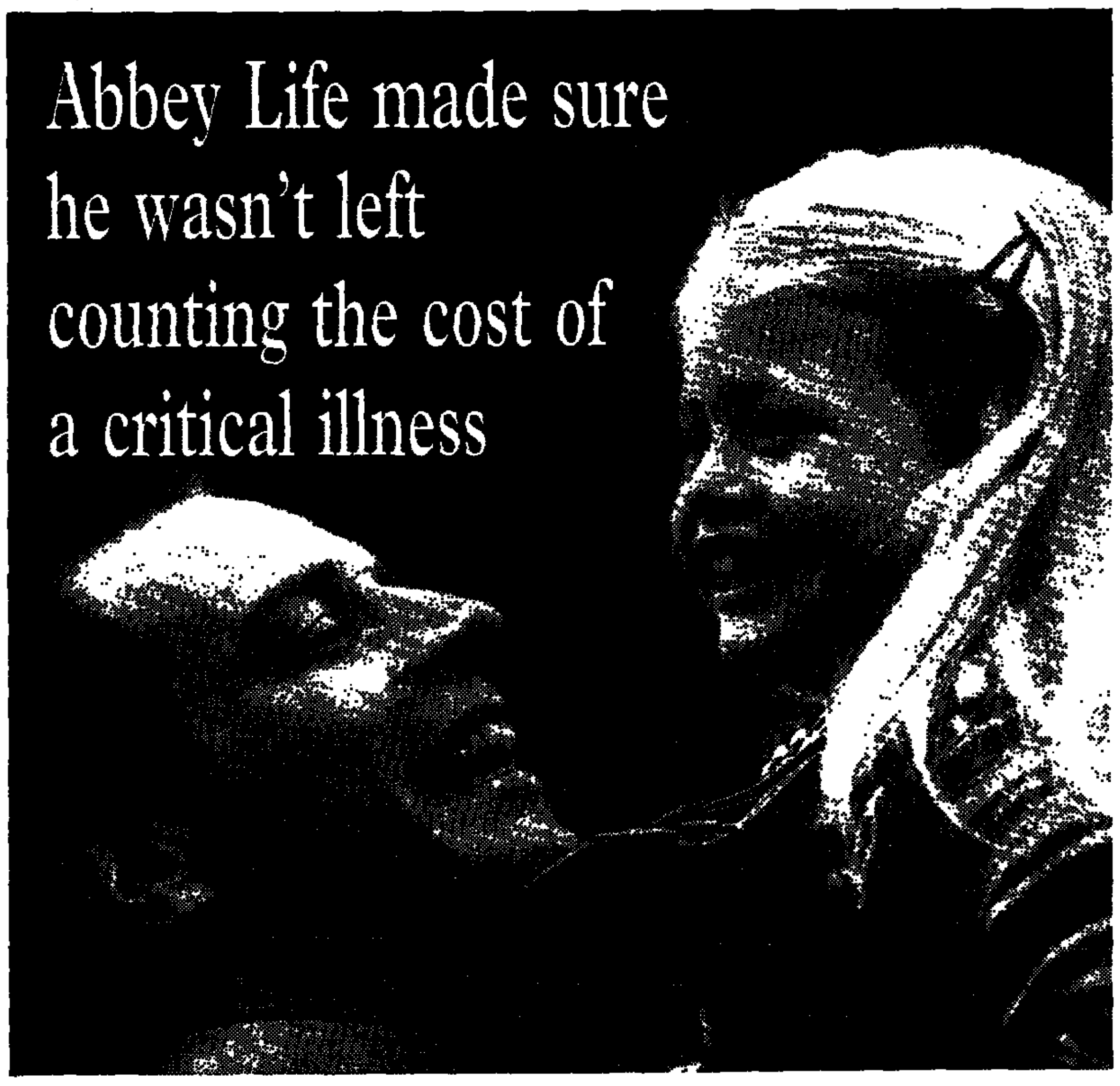

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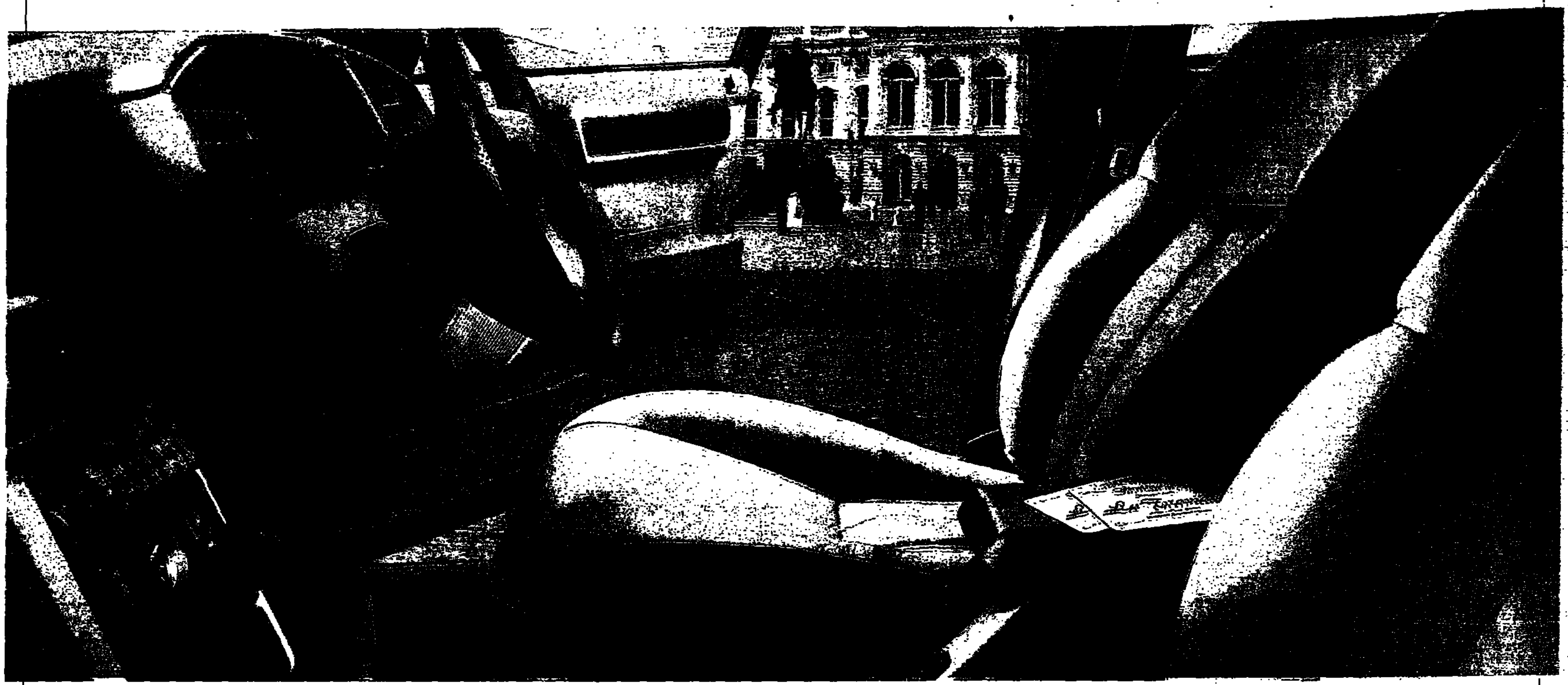

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'The end of Canada would be the end of a country that has made us the envy of the world'

Chrétien battles rising pressure for Quebec breakaway

From Tom Rhodes in Montreal and Ian Brodie in Washington

JEAN CHRETIEN, the Canadian Prime Minister, joins a historic rally against independence for Quebec in *Montreal* today after launching a fierce last-minute campaign to avert a breakaway crisis.

The Prime Minister, whose *political future may rest on the* result of a referendum on Monday, is expected to repeat stern warnings he has given to Quebec and will hope to sway undecided French-speakers in the province when he appears before tens of thousands in the Place du Canada.

During an *unprecedented* televised address on Wednesday night, Mr Chrétien signalled the dangers of a separate Quebec, a foreign land with no Canadian passport and little assistance from outside. He tried to puncture the rosy image of independence offered by Lucien Bouchard, leader of the Bloc Québecois and driving force behind the break with federal Canada, depicting instead a picture of economic gloom.

"The end of Canada would be nothing less than the end of a dream, the end of a country that has made us the envy of the world," the Prime Minister said. "Canada is not just the best country. It is unique. It is the best country in the world."

Mr Chrétien, questioning whether a separate Quebec could have a better quality of life or provide adequate protection for French language and culture, asked finally: "Are you ready to tell the rest of the world — the whole world — that people of different languages, *different* cultures and different backgrounds cannot live together in harmony?" The speech and Mr Chrétien's cancellation *this week of visits by five Latin* American leaders indicate the pressure felt in Ottawa as the fateful day approaches.

QUEBEC REFERENDUM

Polls yesterday showed 44.5 per cent of Quebeckers in favour of a split with 42.2 per cent against. A margin of error of 3 per cent and 13 per cent undecided has left the Government anxiously trying to rally support at the last minute.

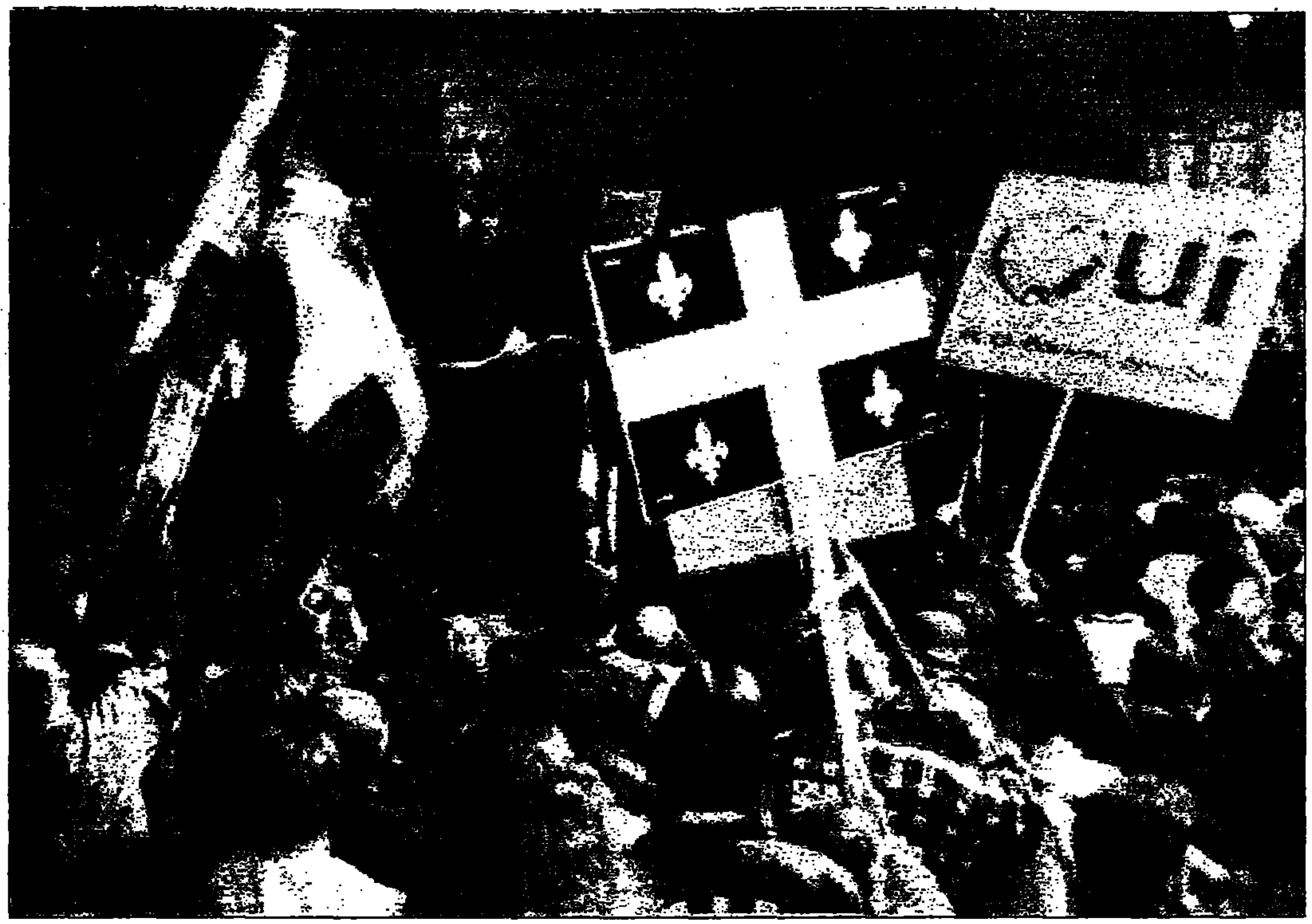
Senior officials admit they were unaware of the depth of *support in favour of the referendum.* Until two weeks ago a seemingly lacklustre "Yes" campaign run by Jacques Parizeau, the Quebec Premier, seemed destined for a crushing defeat — if not by the 40-60 vote that put paid to a similar referendum on sovereignty as*sociation in 1980.*

Mr Bouchard may have changed all that with impressive rhetoric and an array of promises, including retention of the Canadian dollar and the dual citizenship, which could affect undecided voters. Most of these are women and poorer residents reported to have strong nationalist leanings.

The Bouchard message combines nationalist fervour with an increasing resentment *against federal taxes and* central government as a whole. Both he and Mr Parizeau have argued that notional pledges by Mr Chrétien to come to a compromise cannot be trusted. They cite the failed Meech Lake Accord in 1990 and the Charlottetown Agreement in 1992, proposed constitutional revisions intended to codify special status for Quebec.

America is looking askance at a process which mirrors so much anti-federalist sentiment against the Washington Administration. But President Clinton ignored a warning to America not to involve itself in an internal Canadian matter.

While offering the requisite hedge that he would not presume to tell Canadians *how to vote on an internal* issue, Mr Clinton went on: "I can tell you that a strong and united Canada has been a wonderful partner for the United States and an incredibly important and constructive citizen throughout the entire world."


"Yes" supporters in Montreal defiantly wave Quebec flags as they hear Mr Chrétien's televised plea aimed at wooing undecided voters

A united Canada was a country "where things basically work", Mr Clinton said. Not only that, but the Administra*tion hoped the relationship* with such a strong ally would continue, other Washington officials said. Mr Clinton's remarks will bring comfort to anti-secessionists and may be seized on to exacerbate fears, even among some who favour Quebec's breaking away, over what their future political and economic relationship with America would be.

The nine English-speaking *provinces of Canada have* fallen in behind the Canadian Government with a universal call for unity. Ontario and Nova Scotia yesterday introduced resolutions for a single Canada, in response to a similar motion by bilingual New Brunswick.

Canadian Airlines and Air Canada, which are facing a slow season and offering their own form of solidarity, have *slashed fares to encourage* west coasters to fly to Montreal for today's national rally, which is promising to be one of the largest political gatherings in Canadian history.

In the eastern townships, the English-speaking enclaves of Quebec, there was an air of pessimism yesterday among many residents who believe the referendum, successful or not, spells an end to life as they *know it. Many have trans*ferred funds to Ontario and the United States, believing that the fluctuating Canadian dollar will plummet and crash if independence is declared.

"I think they're idiots," said Diana Dryburgh as she took her children to the shops in Cowansville. "They want Canadian money and Canadian welfare and services, but they don't want to be part of *Canada. I am thinking of* getting out because I know there will be nothing left for us if they win."

Leading article, page 21

Worship by the young adds to allure of separatist crusade's living saint

By Tom Rhodes

Lucien Bouchard, leader of the Bloc Québecois, is surrounded by security guards at a rally in Montreal

THE chanting began long before Lucien Bouchard walked to the microphone and its echo, heard in the streets and boulevards of suburban Montreal, continued long into the night.

"Lucien, Lucien; oui, oui," drowned *the arena as Mr Bouchard waited* patiently for the roar to subside. The separatists' mantra is one he has heard many times before, as much a theme for independence as support for the man who has made it possible.

But in the working-class district of Verdun, its auditorium a sea of fleur-de-lys and banners, the Bouchard message had found its most ardent chorus of approval.

"The answer is No, the answer has always been No to Quebec," said the leader of the separatist Bloc Québecois, *as he attacked a televised speech by* Jean Chrétien, Canada's Prime Minister. "We have realised if we ever want to hear the beautiful word Yes, we must pronounce it ourselves."

Each gesture and anecdote created an atmosphere so electric that the subsequent keynote speech by Jacques Parizeau, Premier of Quebec and architect of the referendum, appeared ponderous and anti-climactic. The moving of chairs and shuffling of feet towards exit doors was indication enough that Mr Bouchard was the man of the moment.

The overwhelming number of young faces among the 10,000-strong crowd will have sent tremors from Scotland to Catalonia. Few had expected to see the youth of Quebec out in such force.

Mr Bouchard has become a living legend in Quebec. Not since the death in 1987 of René Lévesque, founder of the Parti Québecois, has one man achieved such reverence among his public. His recovery last winter from a *near-fatal* attack by a flesh-eating bacterium, requiring the amputation of his left leg, has accorded him the status of living saint.

"He is special. He has an aura and a mystique for everyone here," said Guy Chandonnet, 24, a lawyer. "He was at death's door and yet he survived. He represents hope."

At 57, Mr Bouchard is almost certainly the most compelling presence in Canadian politics since Pierre Trudeau. Charismatic, eloquent and possessed with a thoughtful intensity, he portrays himself as a Québecois Everyman, a man whose political journey mirrors the struggle of his predominantly French-speaking province to come to terms with its place in North America and, more specifically, with *le Canada anglais*. His story, he says, is one of an unfinished country.

The son of a lorry driver from the northern forestlands of Lac St-Jean, Mr Bouchard became the first member of his family to attend university, at Laval in Quebec City, where contemporaries describe him as an extraordinarily studious pupil.

"He was a great law student," said Peter Turner, a solicitor firmly op*posed to separation. "He didn't have* the sophistication at that time, but now he can hold his own in any salon in Paris — which is no mean feat."

It was at Laval that Mr Bouchard developed a friendship with Brian Mulroney, the future Canadian Prime Minister who became a political mentor, first appointing him a speech *writer and adviser, then ambassador* to Paris and finally Environment Minister.

In 1990 he left the Cabinet over constitutional differences, creating the Bloc Québecois which two years ago swept the polls in federal elections. It gained 53 members in the Ottawa parliament and, ironically, the title of Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition for Mr Bouchard.

Whether or not he wins Monday's referendum, few doubt that Mr Bouchard will remain a force in Canada for many years to come.

THE voters of Quebec will be asked to answer this *question on* the referendum ballot:

Do you agree that Quebec should become sovereign, after having made a formal offer to Canada for a new economic, political partner*ship, within the scope of the Bill* respecting the future of Quebec and of the agreement signed on June 12, 1995?

Yes or no.

CANADA THE FACTS

☐ **Language:** Four in five Quebeckers are native French speakers. *Four million of the* 27 million Canadians are bilingual and 11 of the country's 106 newspapers are in French. In 1977 French became the official language of government, business and education in Quebec.

☐ **Size:** Quebec has a population of seven million and makes up 17 per cent of the area of Canada. Quebec is home to seven of Canada's top ten firms.

☐ **History:** *Canada* was ceded to Britain by France in 1763. The provinces were united in 1867 under the British North America Act. In 1931, the Statute of Westminster removed limitations on Canada's autonomy.

☐ **Politics:** The Queen is head of State. Canada is strongly federalist. Provincial governments are, for example, responsible for education policy. To change the constitution *seven of the ten provinces*, representing at least 50 per cent of the population, have to agree. Quebec maintains that it has a right to veto changes.

☐ **Secession:** Despite strong support for provincial sovereignty, 60 per cent of Quebeckers voted against secession in a 1980 referendum. Attempts at constitutional reform to appease continuing ill feeling in Quebec have failed. A *number of* provinces are opposed to granting Quebec a special status. The secessionist Parti Québecois won 77 of the 125 seats in the *1994* Quebec elections.

☐ **Opinion:** Brian Mulroney, the former Prime Minister of Canada, recently said: "The preservation of the French language and culture has always been the primordial objective of Canada's French-speaking minority."

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Hillary Clinton faces subpoena over Whitewater

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

HILLARY CLINTON'S role in the search of Vincent Foster's office on the day after his death came under fresh scrutiny by Republicans in Washington yesterday.

Their suspicions were aroused by an intriguing new sequence of telephone logs reluctantly released by the White House after months of delays and only then under threat of a subpoena. An irritated Alfonse D'Amato, chairman of the Senate Whitewater committee, said that he would study a request from fellow Republicans to subpoena Mrs Clinton to give evidence, after earlier ruling out calling her.

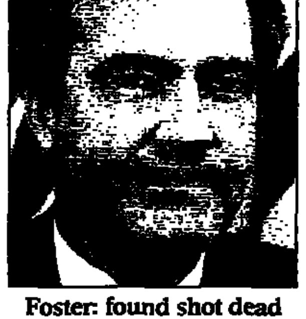
The committee, citing lack of co-operation by the White House, also issued 49 new subpoenas for documents and additional telephone logs in connection with its investigation into the financial affairs of the Clintons.

Republicans wanted to know if Mrs Clinton had intervened to make sure that Foster's White House office would not be searched by investigators from the Justice Department until it had been cleared of any documents relating to Whitewater and "Travelgate", the controversial sacking of White House travel staff to make way for friends of the Clintons. Foster was dealing with the legal aspects of both matters.

Resurgent interest in Mrs Clinton's involvement came the day after three handwriting experts, including Reginald Alton, an Oxford don, had determined that a torn-up "suicide note" attributed to Foster was a forgery. The body of Foster, White House deputy counsel and a former colleague of Mrs Clinton's at an Arkansas law firm, was found with a bullet wound to the head in a Washington park on July 21, 1993.

The next morning, according to the newly released logs, Maggie Williams, Mrs Clinton's chief of staff, arrived early at the White House and spoke to Bernard Nussbaum, Foster's boss, who had told Justice Department officials that they could search the dead man's office.

Ms Williams called Mrs Clinton in Arkansas at 7.44am and the two spoke for seven minutes. At 7.57, Mrs Clinton called her close friend, Susan Thomases, in Washington. They spoke for three minutes and one minute later Ms Thomases paged Mr Nussbaum, who then cancelled his agreement with the Justice Department.



Foster: found shot dead in Washington park

Republicans were asking if these events pointed to Ms Williams calling Mrs Clinton to warn her that investigators would be going into Foster's office and that Mrs Clinton then asked Ms Thomases to cancel the search. Senator Lauch Faircloth, a Republican, described the three women as a "triangle of power in the White House".

Ms Williams and Ms Thomases had earlier denied that they spoke to the First Lady about Foster's documents, but Mr D'Amato said yesterday that he will recall them next Thursday to question them further about their telephone calls in the wake of Foster's death.

The extra subpoenas for documents came amid concerns that Clinton Administration officials had shredded Whitewater documents and withheld important telephone records. Republicans are looking for contacts between the Treasury and the White House that might have tipped off the Clintons about a possible criminal investigation into the failure of a savings and loan bank in Arkansas run by their partners in the Whitewater land venture. Any such warning would have been illegal.

World Bank in 'slavery' check

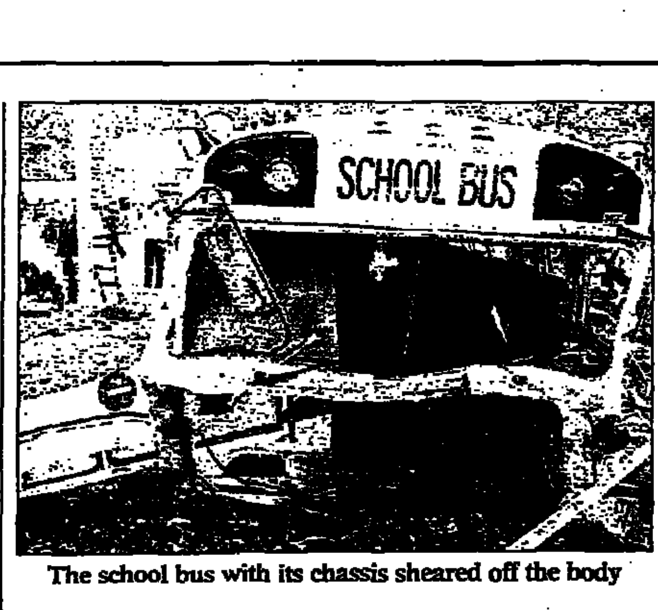
FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE World Bank is to send a team to investigate claims by a human rights activist that forced labour camps are prime beneficiaries of a Chinese irrigation project built with a bank loan.

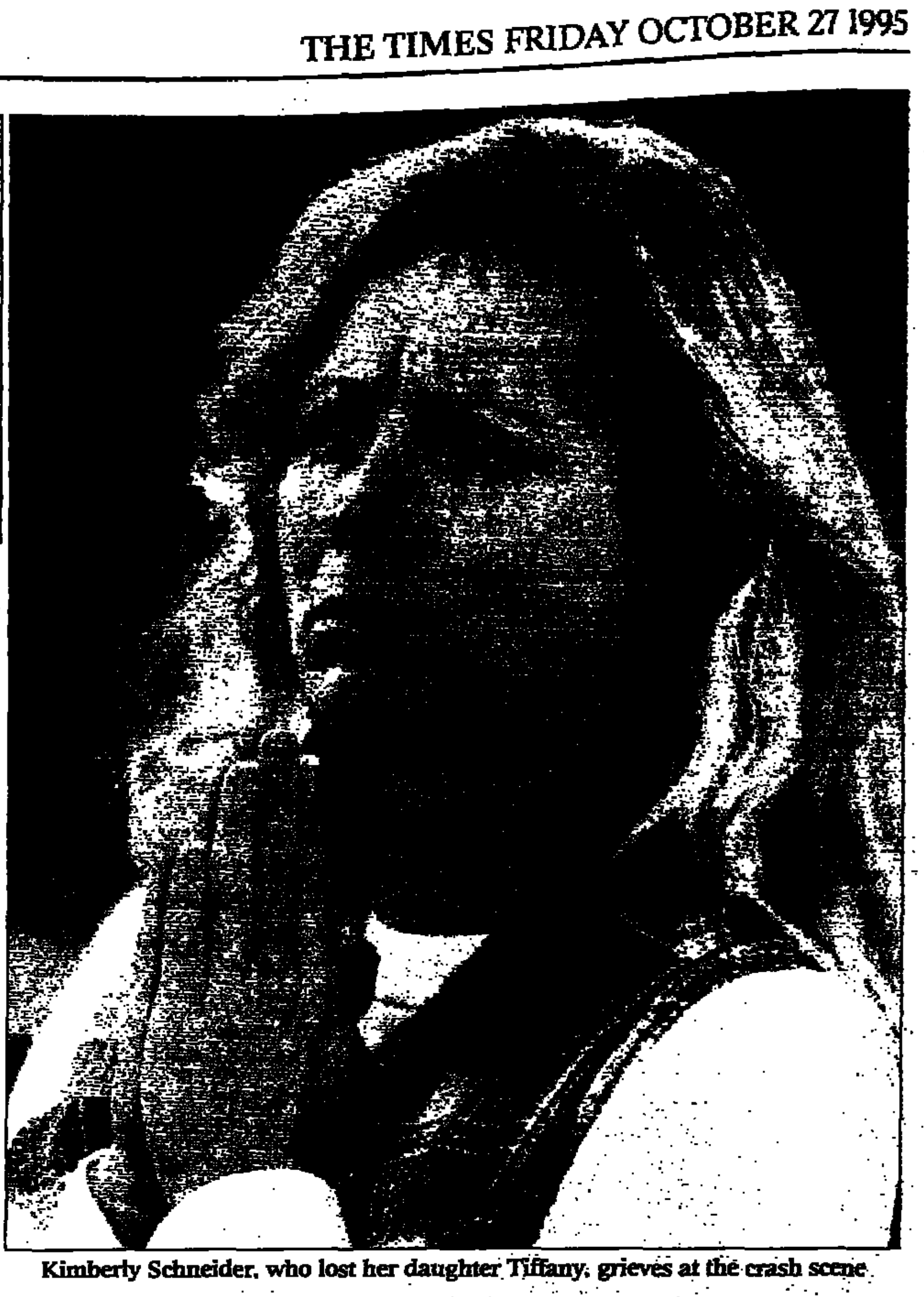
The team's purpose, a bank spokesman said yesterday, would be to "satisfy ourselves completely that everything is all right with this project".

Harry Wu, a Chinese-born American citizen, has claimed that the bank is subsidising slavery in China. He said cotton and grain production in at least 21 forced labour camps and 30 farms controlled by the army are benefiting from a project in Xinjiang province, for which the bank has extended loans of $90 million (£58 million).

Graham Barrett, a bank spokesman, said that it had found no evidence to back Mr Wu's claims but was taking them seriously enough to make on-the-spot checks. The project is meant to help members of a Muslim minority to grow more food and raise livestock. Any link between the loans and forced labour or the military would be a breach of lending principles and could result in the bank asking for its money back.



The school bus with its chassis sheared off the body



Kimberly Schneider, who lost her daughter Tiffany, grieves at the crash scene

Faulty light blamed as express hits bus

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN FOX RIVER GROVE, ILLINOIS

INVESTIGATORS tried to determine yesterday whether a malfunctioning traffic light held a school bus on a railway line as a train slammed into it, killing five pupils.

The collision, at up to 60mph, injured 30 young people on the bus at the crossing 40 miles northwest of Chicago. Eleven pupils were in hospital last night, five in critical condition.

Sensors in the tracks are supposed to change the crossing's traffic light to green as a train approaches to signal vehicles to clear the intersection, officials said. However, witnesses said that the light was red, which would have prevented the bus, carrying 35 youngsters, from moving into the heavy morning traffic.

The town's police chief saw the crash because he was checking recent reports of problems with the traffic light. Investigators have begun testing the light and were seeking police telephone logs to check for complaints.

Regardless of whether the light was red or green, some witnesses said that there was no car in front of the bus and the driver could have moved forward. A crossing gate had come down behind the bus.

The Chicago-bound express train was travelling at 60mph and sheared the body of the bus off the chassis, spinning it round. Nobody on the train was injured.

Republican budget cutters defy Clinton veto threat

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

REPUBLICANS began their final drive to achieve a balanced budget of tax and spending cuts yesterday in the teeth of an unyielding pledge by President Clinton to veto the measure. The budget is filled with the most sweeping changes to the federal government in 30 years.

Warning that he would not bend to blackmail, Mr Clinton said: "If the Republicans plunge ahead and pass this budget, I will veto it and demand another ... that reflects our values and promotes our economy." His threat was ignored, although some moderate Republicans were concerned about voting for cuts in health care for the poor and elderly while lowering taxes. They had to be whipped into line by party leaders.

Mr Clinton issued his promise while announcing that the budget deficit had shrunk in the current financial year to $164 billion (£104 billion) from $203 billion last year, potentially good enough to eliminate the deficit even before the Republicans' target of seven years but not enough to alter the outcome of yesterday's debates in the House and Senate.

The confrontation has the predictability of a ritual, but its consequences will reverberate until polling day just over a year from now and maybe long beyond that. Many in Washington hope that the veto will come quickly so that Mr Clinton's congressional leaders can hammer out a compromise.

The blackmail Mr Clinton referred to is the Republicans' demand that he accept sweeping budget cuts in exchange for raising the federal debt ceiling. It seems unimaginable that either side would continue to be immovable, but if the showdown goes on too long the Government could run out of funds and start an international financial crisis by defaulting on its debt payments next month.

Child lives after train drags him into tunnel

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A BOY aged two was dragged down a tunnel by an accelerating New York subway train, then tossed on to the track, after a wheel of his push-chair became caught in the doors. David Mendez survived with only minor scratches.

Bellen Michaca, 27, was trying to manoeuvre the push-chair on to an evening rush-hour train on Wednesday. She was still on the platform when a front wheel caught in the automatic doors as the train pulled out.

Ms Michaca, a newly arrived immigrant from Mexico, ran alongside the train trying to free the push-chair. Richard Rivera, a part-time policeman, came to her help, screaming at the train driver to stop but his yells went unheard. Commuters inside the carriage watched in horror as the child hurtled along with the train.

Eventually the guard realised what was happening and pulled the emergency stop, but not before the push-chair had slammed against the tunnel mouth, then scraped along its wall, throwing David on to the track underneath the now stationary train.

Jack Ng, a medical orderly who carried the boy to a sobbing Ms Michaca, said: "He was really lucky. He just had a few bruises."

A preliminary explanation was that the doors, which usually reopen if obstructed, did not detect the wheel because it was too small.

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Moscow faces threat of factional fighting in the run-up to presidential elections

Yeltsin's heart trouble creates power vacuum

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's second bout of heart trouble in three months could leave a personal and political vacuum at the top of Russian politics which will not be filled until after next summer's presidential elections.

Analysts are worried that if his illness continues, or ill health forces him to give up *the presidency, factional fighting* could destabilise the country politically in the run-up to next June's elections. "The illness strongly complicates the problem of an heir," Sergei Markov, of the Carnegie Endowment in Moscow, said.

The strongest contender as successor is the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin. Under the constitution, if the president is incapacitated, he will take over as acting head of state for up to three months. He slipped into that role smoothly for the four weeks in the summer that Mr Yeltsin spent in hospital, and was widely tipped then as a future president.

But the prime minister's party, Our Home is Russia, is faring badly in the run-up to the elections to the lower house of parliament, the State Duma, on December 17. Mr Chernomyrdin's future depends on his party's performance. If it does well in *December, that will almost* certainly make Mr Chernomyrdin the natural heir to Mr Yeltsin and the "official" candidate for president. If it does badly, the chances of other Yeltsin allies will be increased. The most powerful of these is Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, who enjoys a strong reputation in the capital.

Mr Yeltsin's popularity has plummeted in the past two years. The man who won the presidency overwhelmingly in 1991 and a positive vote in the referendum two years later, now has approval ratings consistently below 10 per cent. The invasion of Chechenia was planned as a "small victorious war" that would revive Mr Yeltsin's presidency, according to the secretary of the Kremlin Security Council, Oleg Lobov. It had the opposite effect.

The official candidate for president will have to find *another way of recapturing* the popular vote. One long-term loser could be the economy, which has shown modest improvements this year; already several politicians have started promising more money for the poorer sectors of the economy.

In private, officials are worried about what the Duma elections may bring. If one of the three leading opposition parties pulls off a convincing victory in the December polls, its leader will also become presidential front-runner.

The strongest candidates are Aleksandr Lebed, the former commander of the 14th Army and one of the leaders of the nationalist Congress of Russian Communities; a Communist candidate — either the party leader, Gennadi Zyuganov, or the former Soviet prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov; and the informal leader of the liberal opposition, the economist Grigori Yavlinsky.

If any of the opposition figures begins to pick up a head of steam, some of Mr Yeltsin's inner circle may start considering desperate options, including cancelling the presidential elections. That would leave Mr Yeltsin in the role of a Soviet General Secretary, clinging on to power despite bad health and completing a circle he began in 1985, when he abandoned the role of Soviet party boss.

"I don't rule out Yeltsin trying to stay in power without holding elections," the Carnegie's Mr Markov said.

President Yeltsin with Viktor Chernomyrdin, whose future hinges on December's elections to the State Duma

Three men who wield real power in a crisis

BY THOMAS DE WAAL

Ilyushin: controls the President's diary

Grachev: has saved Yeltsin three times

Korzhakov: bodyguard and closest friend

IN RECENT crises the Kremlin has turned into a Byzantine court, with different courtiers *and factions vying for control.* With President Yeltsin going into hospital for the third time in a year and Russia in the middle of an election season, the infighting is likely to be more intense than ever.

If the President is seriously ill, the constitution lays down that the Prime Minister, presently Viktor Chernomyrdin, takes over the running of the country. But no chain of command has been established for when the President is ill but remains intent on carrying on.

A presidential illness or a crisis separates the men who are figureheads from those with real power. Sergei Filatov the President's chief of staff, is nominally the most powerful man after Mr Yeltsin, but he was not informed of the President's decision to dissolve the Supreme Soviet (parliament) in September 1993 until two days earlier.

Only two men have Mr Yeltsin's total confidence. The first is Viktor Ilyushin, his chief aide, who controls the President's diary and papers and was the man who briefed the press on his boss's illness yesterday. Mr Ilyushin has worked with Mr Yeltsin since 1977, when they were officials in the regional Communist Party in Sverdlovsk.

The other influential figure is General Aleksandr Korzhakov, who has been Mr Yeltsin's bodyguard and closest friend since he arrived to work in Moscow as the city's *Communist Party boss in 1985.*

When Mr Yeltsin went into hospital last December for a minor nose operation, these two took day-to-day decisions on the crisis. General Korzhakov was the only aide who had full access to the President, while Mr Ilyushin kept in contact by telephone.

The only other person in Russia whose voice carries weight in a crisis is General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister. He has saved Mr Yeltsin on three occasions: in August 1991, when he led his paratroops across to the Russian President's side during the attempted coup; in October 1993, when his tanks fired on the White House; and last December, when he agreed to push ahead with an invasion of Chechenia with an unprepared army.

Showman entertained Clinton with virtuoso performance

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AT HIS summit with President Clinton on Franklin Roosevelt's estate on Monday, President Yeltsin had seemed on top of his form.

Mr Yeltsin had flown from Moscow to Paris late last week for talks with President Chirac, and from there to New York where he addressed the United Nations General Assembly on Sunday. However, he showed no ill effects as he stepped off a US military helicopter and gave Mr Clinton a bear hug on his arrival at Hyde Park in New York state.

He walked, a little stiffly perhaps, about 300 yards across the landing field, then *up the sun-dappled, tree-lined* drive to Roosevelt's mansion, spurning the limousine that was standing by. As he walked, Mr Yeltsin kept up an animated dialogue with Mr Clinton, at one point vigorously pumping his arms up and down.

After 90 minutes of talks during which American officials said that Mr Yeltsin seemed "absolutely normal", the two men emerged from the building for a ten-minute walk to the Roosevelt library, stopping en route to pay their respects at the President's grave. After lunch they returned by foot to the main house for a couple more hours of talks.

Mr Yeltsin then hijacked a joint press conference with a virtuoso performance that had Mr Clinton doubled up with laughter beside him. The Russian President seemed to be enjoying himself and showed no signs of what his aides were describing yesterday as the "intellectual, moral and physical stresses which the President experienced during his last trip".

Mr Yeltsin was clearly in high spirits after the press conference, again refusing a lift to his helicopter. He set off on foot, beaming and making *a point of shaking the hands* of all the cooks, waiters and estate workers who had lined the drive to watch his departure.

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Dini wins crucial vote with help of hardline Left

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

LAMBERTO DINI, the Italian Prime Minister, yesterday beat off an attempt to topple his Government after the hard-left Rifondazione *Comunista suddenly* withdrew support for a conservative no-confidence motion.

Fausto Bertinotti, the Rifondazione leader, announced at the *last minute that the party's 24 MPs would* leave the Chamber of Deputies during the vote, dooming *the motion presented by Silvio* Berlusconi, the Forza Italia leader and former Prime Minister, and *his "post-Fascist"* allies in the National Alliance.

The motion was finally rejected by *310* votes to *291 with* one abstention, Irene Pivetti, the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, announced.

Signor Bertinotti broke ranks with the conservatives after *Signor Dini pledged he* would stand down after parliament approves his 1996 budget and confirms a government decree regulating equal access for political parties to television during election campaigns. The Prime Minister vowed that in any case he would hand in his resignation by the end of the year.

Signor Bertinotti said: "This morning we thought we would vote for the no-confidence *motion.* But we were presented with a new fact . . . Dini for the first time indicated a certain date for his resignation."

He conceded it was possible *that Signor Dini might not* keep his word: "Certainly there is always a risk, but the *Prime Minister has committed* himself to resigning by December 31."

The surprise move took the suspense out of what had been expected to be a knife-edge *vote that could have been* determined by a handful of ailing MPs, some of whom *were brought to parliament on* stretchers.

Signor Bertinotti had come *under pressure from grass*roots supporters as well as the "post-Communist" Democrat*ic Party of the Left not to bring* down the Government.

Signor Berlusconi looked glum after Signor *Dini* wriggled out of the no-confidence motion, which the media tycoon had presented to try to force an early election before he stands trial on corruption charges in January.

The lira recovered on foreign exchanges when it became clear the Government was not likely to fall. In his speech to the Chamber, Signor Dini said Italy would be plunged into chaos if the Government fell before next year's budget was passed.

The Prime Minister argued *that it was* essential to pass the budget to make Italy appear economically stable as the *country prepares* to take over the chairmanship of the European Union in January.

Signor Dini also defended his dismissal of Filippo Mancuso, the Justice Minister, who was *impeached* by the Senate last week for allegedly harassing anti-corruption *magistrates* who are investigating Signor Berlusconi.

However, *Gianfranco Fini, the National Alliance leader,* said Signor Dini had won only a pyrrhic victory and prom*ised the Right would do every*thing possible to prevent the budget being approved.

Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister, top left, is congratulated by government members

France plans to strengthen laws in fight against terrorism

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE French Government plans to bolster anti-terrorism laws that would enable police to carry out night raids on suspects, expand the definition of terrorist offences and increase prison terms for those convicted.

The move comes after a wave of bombings, believed to be the work of Islamic fundamentalists, which have killed seven people and injured more than 160 since last July.

"It is absolutely essential that the legislative arsenal to fight against these particularly odious intrigues should be as effective as possible," Jacques Toubon, the Justice Minister, said.

The draft Bill, endorsed by the French Cabinet on Wednesday, *would impose harsher penalties for* attacks on police, doubling the sentence for anybody crippling a police officer to a maximum of *30* years. A Cabinet statement said that the changes would also allow arms possession or helping a foreigner to enter or stay in the country illegally to be defined as terrorist offences in some cases.

The proposed changes would also *remove a legal anomaly by allowing* police to carry out raids on terrorist suspects between 2am and 6am. "*Until now, night searches could be* carried out only in drug trafficking and prostitution cases but paradoxically not in cases of suspected terrorism," M Toubon said.

The overwhelming parliamentary majority of the ruling centre-right coalition virtually guarantees that *the proposals become law.* France's existing anti-terrorist legislation dates back to 1986, when the county *last faced a series of terrorist attacks.* The proposed Bill would supplement the largest anti-terrorist operation in *French history, in which 32,000* police and troops have been deployed to guard railway stations, schools, tourists sites and other potential bombing targets.

EU 'Ice Maiden' in diary lawsuit

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE self-inflicted wounds of Ritt Bjerregaard, Denmark's outspoken European Commissioner for the environment, deepened yesterday when a Copenhagen newspaper published the whole text of her personal diary which she had agreed to scrap.

Mrs Bjerregaard, nicknamed the "Ice Maiden", said she was suing *Politiken*, the daily which printed the diary as a supplement yesterday. "This is a severe contravention of copyright law," said her spokesman in Brussels.

The newspaper's action ensured that the row over Mrs Bjerregaard's indiscreet account of her first six months in office was unlikely to blow over, despite her decision to pulp the book three days before publication under pressure from Jacques Santer, the European Commission President.

The full text of *The Commissioner's Diary* offered few more home truths beyond the unflattering views of European leaders published earlier this week. Some of her colleagues, however, emerged in a favourable light. She writes with admiration of Sir Leon Brittan, the British Trade Commissioner, and with affection for Edith Cresson, the former French Prime Minister who joined the Commission as technology and education *chief in January.*

Wielding the Scandinavian gospel of openness, oft pro*claimed by Mrs Bjerregaard* herself. *Politiken* said it wanted to "give everybody the *opportunity of deciding if the* personal attacks and confidential information contained in the diary are *really as* rude as has been said".

Zanzibar poll won by rulers

Tanzania's ruling *Chama Cha Mapinduzi* party narrowly won Zanzibar's first multiparty presidential election, the electoral commission an*nounced* yesterday after dismissing claims of irregularites by opposition parties (Inigo Gilmore writes).

President Amour scraped home by polling 165,271 votes against 163,706 for *Seif Sharif* Hamad of the oppostion Civic United Front, a margin of just 1,565. It was unclear whether Mr Hamad's party would accept the outcome. Apart from allegations of irregularities, the poll has been marred by clashes between oppostion supporters and police.

UN Briton dies in gun accident

Zagreb: One British United Nations peacekeeper was killed and another seriously wounded in a weapons-related accident at a base in Zepce, north-central Bosnia, the UN said. The dead man was Gary Riches, 24, from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who was serving with the Royal Fusiliers. The soldier who survived is in serious condition in a medical facility in Zepce. The Royal Military Police is investigating the incident. *(Reuter)*

Consular aide charged

Chania, Greece: A British consular aide on Crete has been charged in connection *with illegal possession* of ancient artefacts after police searched his home, a public prosecutor *said yesterday.* The British embassy in Athens said John Craxton, 73, a long-time Hania resident, *was* an unpaid volunteer who helped British citizens but had no diplomatic status. *(Reuter)*

Turkish court frees dissident Kurd MPs

BY ANDREW FINKEL

A TURKISH appeal court took two steps forward into Europe and one leap back yesterday by ordering the release of two Kurdish nationalist MPs. The same Ankara court went on to uphold 15-year sentences on four other deputies.

The MPs, all members of the banned Democrat Party, were accused of having links to an armed separatist organisation, the Kurdistan Workers Party. A further two MPs were freed at the time of the initial verdict last December. *The MPs' trial was described* at that time as a relic of Soviet-style show trials. Subsequent*ly it is Turkey itself which has* gone on trial in front of international opinion for the rare legal pursuit of legally elected parliamentarians.

Many Euro MPs have let it be known that the fate of the MPs would influence their decision on whether to approve a trade deal between Turkey and the EU.

☐ Pay deal: The Government last night agreed to an £82 million settlement with public sector workers, heralding an end to a five-week strike that helped to bring down the minority Government of Tansu Ciller in a vote of *confidence. Trade union lead*ers said Mrs Ciller had agreed to give the workers a backdat*ed 16 per cent rise for the first* half of this year. *(Reuter)*

'Battle of sexes' tennis star dies

San Diego: Bobby Riggs, the former Wimbledon tennis champion, has died aged 77 at his California home after a long illness. In 1973 he was beaten by Billie Jean King in a "battle of the sexes" tournament after saying that women belonged in the kitchen and not on the tennis courts.

Obituary, page 23

New union chief

New York: AFL-CIO, America's biggest trade union federation, has chosen John *Sweeney as its new president* in the first contested election in its 40-year history. He immediately promised to *revitalise* the union movement. *(Reuter)*

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مكتبة الأهرام

Sri Lanka goes on war alert as Tigers slaughter villagers

By Christopher Thomas, South Asia Correspondent

THE Tamil Tigers, under siege from the biggest army offensive in 12 years of civil war, hacked 36 Sinhalese villagers to death in northern Sri Lanka yesterday. The increasing *slaughter of unarmed* civilians is aimed at provoking a backlash and embroiling the country in ethnic bloodshed.

Last night Sri Lanka was placed on a war footing as the toll from the latest wave of ethnic violence climbed to 770. Officials said the measure could mean the entire country being brought under a state of *emergency and allowing* civilians to be armed.

Women guerrillas armed with automatic weapons, swords and knives carried out the massacre of Sinhalese peasants in the latest attack, on the central Northern Province hamlet of Herathalmillewa, one witness said. "A fat woman led the attack. Most of them were women. One group used swords and knives while another group used guns and grenades," he said. The attack in the Anuradhapura district was the third massacre of villagers in less than a week.

The carnage will further tarnish the reputation of the Tigers, *once respected* as the voice of an oppressed minority but increasingly seen as fanatically inflexible. They are accused of being unreliable in negotiations and, according to the Government, have become international drug dealers.

Ethnic carnage would suit their purposes by stretching the army's resources and taking pressure *off the* rebel stronghold on the Jaffna peninsula in the Northern Province. At least 35,000 troops have been moved to Palaly, the government foothold on Jaffna, and the military is boasting that it will enter Jaffna town in about a week.

That would be a *stunning* and far-reaching achievement. If the Tigers were scattered, the Sinhalese community might exploit the Tamils' vulnerability and go on the rampage, supported by hardline Buddhist monks. Hated *as they are*, the Tigers offer the only trusted protection from Sinhalese extremists who would undoubtedly launch a pogrom, given the chance.

At least 200,000 Tamil civilians have fled the fighting on Jaffna, creating a refugee crisis. If the army does capture Jaffna town, it might find it largely empty, given the rate of exodus in recent days.

The army has launched three waves of attacks: Operation Leap Forward, then Thunder Strike, and now Riviresa (Sunshine). Troops are fighting against time because of the approaching monsoon. If they do not seize the town soon they will have to wait for weeks before launching an assault, leaving troops prone to attack.

If defeated at Jaffna, the Tigers would take their war to Colombo. Oil storage tanks were blown up in the capital this week by *suicide* bombers disguised as soldiers, a taste of what could happen if the rebels lost their de facto homeland in the north.

For all the military braggadocio, the complete fall of Jaffna seems improbable in the near future, given the dedication of the rebel fighters, the quality of their weaponry and their ready supply of *suicide attackers*. They have acquired surface-to-air missiles, probably from Afghanistan, and have mounted ferocious counter-attacks during the siege.

US hostage seriously ill

By Christopher Thomas and Our Foreign Staff

THE partners of four Westerners held by Muslim extremists in Kashmir since early July left Delhi yesterday. The decision reflects growing expectation that the hostages could be held a long time.

Concern over the fate of the four men was heightened when an official in Srinigar said yesterday that Donald Hutchings, an American, was seriously ill from an infection after *suffering* frostbite. The other hostages, Paul Wells and Keith Mangan from Britain, and Dirk Hasert from Germany, are believed to be reasonably well.

Nelson Mandela leaves jail with his wife Winnie in 1990 despite warnings of a plot to kill him on his walk to freedom

Assassin awaited Mandela as he left jail

From Inigo Gilmore
in Johannesburg

SOUTH Africa's Department of Correctional Services has confirmed that it was tipped off about a plot to assassinate President Mandela shortly before his historic walk to freedom from prison on February 11, 1990.

The plot has been disclosed by James Gregory, the South African leader's former warder, in a book entitled *Goodbye Bafana. Nelson Mandela, My prisoner. My Friend*, due out today. Mr Gregory claims he had been told of the plot by an army general at 3.50pm on the day of Mr Mandela's release. Apparently the general had been informed by the British Secret Service that one of the armed guards lining the route to the prison had been instructed to shoot the black liberation leader. Mr Gregory says he was ordered by the general to inform Mr Mandela, but the future President declined to delay an end to 27 years behind bars. Mr Gregory says he ordered everyone lining the route to be disarmed, including generals and bodyguards.

Brigadier Chris Olckers, for the Correctional Services Department, confirmed that a call about the plot came into the commissioner's office but played down Mr Gregory's personal role.

Israeli accord 'without mandate'

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

PRESIDENT Weizman of Israel was embroiled in a heated constitutional controversy yesterday after allegedly exceeding his role with another scathing attack on the Palestine Liberation Organisation peace accord.

According to press reports, he dismissed the accord as over-hasty and claimed that its 61-59 majority in the Knesset had been achieved only by bribing a deputy with a car.

Itim, the official news agency, quoted the President, who is supposedly non-political but who has called for a slowdown in negotiations with *the PLO in the wake of recent* suicide attacks, as clashing with Sallah Tarif, an Israeli Arab MP.

According to the Tel Aviv daily *Maariv*, Mr Weizman told some Israeli Arab leaders: "I am in favour of peace, but the agreement is not an agreement; and it was made hastily. If one Knesset member would *not have received* a Mitsubishi, the agreement would not have passed."

Itim reported the President as telling the meeting that the agreement was hard on Jewish settlers who had been sent *to the occupied* West Bank.

When Mr Tarif said, before storming out of the building, that the President was forbidden by the constitution from being controversial, Mr Weizman was quoted by the agency to have snapped: "Don't you say these things outside, and if you leak them you will never enter this *building again*."

Reports of the exchange point to the deep divisions caused by the peace process and succeeded in forcing accounts of the withdrawal from the West Bank from the main *newspaper* headlines. Rightwingers backed the President and many on the Left demanded his powers be curtailed.

Officials in the President's Office claimed that he had been quoted out of context. But supporters of peace predicted that the incident would lend support to Dedi Drucker, the head of the Knesset law and *justice committee* who, according to *Maariv*, had proposed "a draft Bill that would shut the President's mouth".

Governor-General attacks Australia republic plan

Hayden: blueprint is seriously flawed

From Roger Maynard
in Sydney

AN UNPRECEDENTED attack on the so-called minimalist model for an Australian *republic has been made by* Bill Hayden, who as Governor-General is the Queen's official representative in Australia.

Mr Hayden said the blueprint for the election of a President by a two-thirds majority of parliament had very serious pitfalls. The proposal has been championed by Paul Keating, the Prime Minister.

Mr Hayden, who retires in February, suggested Mr Keating should revamp his *proposed* model because "it would cause greater problems than it would solve".

He said a President who was elected and could be dismissed only by a two-thirds vote of both houses of parliament could create a deadlock between an "opportunist populist" President and the Government.

He believed the greatest danger was that a President elected by parliament might cling to office with the support of just a third of its membership.

"I am not going to go far down that route, because *it is* controversial and it is a political point," he said in an interview with *The Sydney Morning Herald*. "But very simply, if you have a President elected by 60 per cent or two-thirds in a joint sitting of the houses, then that person has a very strong constituency.

"Now to sack that person would require a two-thirds vote of both houses of parliament.

"No *Government* in the period in which I was in parliament, which was 27 years, had a two-thirds majority," the former Labour Party leader pointed out.

Referring to criticism of his spending habits while in office, the Governor-General, whose costs increased by £1 million last year, said his spending had fallen by 3 per cent a year in real terms.

This, he said, was inconsistent "*with someone who is self*-indulgent, living high on the neck of the hog, wallowing in self-gratification". And he revealed he would contact the Queen directly to say how "bitterly unfairly" he had been treated recently. "I find her a consoling figure," Mr Hayden said.

The chairman of the Australian Republican Movement, Malcolm Turnbull, said the fact that the President would *be appointed by a two-thirds* majority of parliament would give the office a great deal more integrity and tenure.

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Isabel Fonseca on life with gypsies and Martin Amis — and all the fuss about his new set of teeth

'People seem to imagine that Martin is such a sap'

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

ISABEL FONSECA is Martin Amis's girlfriend and it is for this reason that newspapers are clamouring to interview her about *Bury Me Standing*, her book about gypsies in Eastern Europe. For Fonseca this is a double-edged sword. Like every author she wants maximum exposure. She would prefer, however, that this focused on the gypsies, rather than on such topics as the fact that this "gloriously beautiful girl" who was the *femme fatale* of her year at Oxford and whose friends include such literary luminaries as Bill Buford, Salman Rushdie and Julian Barnes, has lured Amis away from his wife of eight years, persuaded him to haggle for a notorious £460,000 book deal and had him invest, in a most un-English way, in £20,000 worth of dental surgery.

Amis sniping has become a national sport. The story goes that the man who used to play pool in London pubs has fallen into the clutches of a dark, American heiress who has transformed him into one of the characters he used to satirise. "It makes him sound like such a sap," says Fonseca. "You imagine me wagging my finger, saying 'Now Martin you do this' and everyone saying 'Poor chap, he has no will of his own'."

It has also made Fonseca, 34, who has worked for Bloomsbury Publishing and *The Times Literary Supplement*, sound like an exotic bimbo, to whom Amis is a literary trophy to be dangled from her arm. No wonder she is anxiously scanning her reviews (which have so far been excellent), rearranging copies of her book in Waterstones and treating the press with the same mixture of defensiveness and contempt that the gypsies reserve for *gadje* (outsiders).

Research for the book — her first — included living for six weeks with 17 members of an Albanian gyspy family. There she was treated with overwhelming hospitality, yet endured undernourishment and a total lack of privacy. The gypsy girls were duty bound to wash their guest and became fascinated by her Western body. They "poked and cautiously squeezed" Fonseca's breasts, before taking out their own "yamlike, triangular flaps" for comparison.

The fascination with gypsies began in 1980 when Fonseca visited Budapest. "I was intrigued by the cliché of the romantic violin-playing figure versus the reality of these horribly treated people." Since then Fonseca, who has degrees in religion from Columbia University and PPE from Oxford, has had a bee in her bonnet. "But frankly I didn't want to meet any gypsies," she says. "I was afraid to." She was staying with her brother in Barcelona, when he suggested that they visited a nearby encampment. "I was terrified, but he went in with a deck of cards and a packet of cigarettes and it was fine."

From then, Fonseca became obsessed with chronicling a race that has no chronicles. "The world's 12 million gypsies [there are 13 million Jews] have no Book, no common religion, no dream of a homeland, yet they maintain a sharply defined identity through their language and restrictive social codes." Half a million died in the Holocaust and as recently as 150 years ago tens of thousands were sold as slaves in Europe. "These are people struggling not against prejudice, but against hatred. Yet they aren't ever self pitying."

Nor does Fonseca romanticise her subjects, depicting lives that are often bleak in the extreme. The men do nothing but drink, smoke and die young, while their wives are domestic slaves, destined for a life of constant childbearing.

Such an existence could hardly be more different from that of Fonseca, the daughter of an American painter mother and a Uruguayan-born sculptor father, who divorced 20 years ago. Her maternal grandfather made a fortune from soft drinks and food and established a philanthropic foundation, which is estimated to be worth £60 million. Money has given Fonseca an enviable freedom. She could afford to spend seven years as a student and five years working on *Bury me Standing*. Now she can take her time deciding what to do next. "It'd be nice to have a job, but I wouldn't want a full-time big career. I have a few ideas, contrary to what they're saying about me."

> 'The letters Martin receives have this vulgar intimacy'

She is understandably resentful of digs at her intellect and flirtatious manner. "It's a cultural thing. Where I was brought up, you were expected to make an effort and be appealing. I understand that, so if people don't get it — tough luck." She is visibly nervous at being interviewed, going pink as she talks about the press she has received. When she relaxes she is warm and funny, apologising constantly for the way her words fall over each other. "I think I am shy. A lot of shy people are over demonstrative and talk too fast. I'm certainly radically anxious."

The past two years have been wretched for Fonseca. Last year, she was at the bedside of her brother, Bruno, when he died, aged 36, from an Aids-related illness. "It was horrible, horrible, horrible." No one knew how he contracted the disease. "He wasn't gay or a drugs user." Meanwhile, in London, where Fonseca's three-year relationship with Amis became public knowledge, photographers camped out on her doorstep. "My bell rang and I stuck my head out of the window and a man from the *Daily Mail* shouted: 'But do you love Martin Amis?' You could hear every sash in the neighbourhood being thrown up."

She clearly does love Amis, referring to him constantly. At the moment she lives up four flights of linoleum-covered stairs in a shabby flat in Ladbroke Grove, dominated by paintings by her two brothers and her mother. Amis lives down the road in Notting Hill. By Christmas they will be in a house in Camden, down the road from Amis's late father, Sir Kingsley.

"Both father and son are misunderstood. They are both comic writers who exaggerate for effect and then people confuse them with their characters. The kind of letters Martin receives have this vulgar intimacy to them that imply that he is Keith Talent [of *London Fields*]. But Martin's not very streetwise he's extremely literary.

"Nabokov wrote about readers who misread Lolita and decided the author must be a pervert. Readers shouldn't identify with characters, they should identify with the author. Martin is very much that kind of writer; when we go to the cinema and I get involved he says 'Stop identifying!' "

The hostility aroused by Amis's notorious book deal puzzles her. "First of all, it was a two-book deal and he spent five years on it. American attitudes to money are, the more the better and good for you. There's no misery, there's none of this British culture of not trying hard, not being seen — all this fuss about Martin's teeth, which wasn't about self improvement anyway."

Amis has been more stoic about the attention. "He's certainly more thick skinned because he's been getting it for a long time. I was alarmed, but in the context of my brother it hardly mattered. Anyway, none of it has made any difference. There were various bigger issues to deal with. Your parents would hope you met someone who was available, uncomplicated, without children built in, but life never turns out that way."

● *Bury Me Standing*, *Chatto & Windus (£18)*

DES JENSON

Isabel Fonseca: tabloid photographers have been camping on her doorstep, hoping to get a shot of the scarlet woman whose three-year relationship with Amis has become public knowledge

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The man the Left loves to hate

Matthew d'Ancona believes that Labour will soon be in need of a lateral thinker like David Hart

Some say that the infernal smell of sulphur clings to David Hart, but those who have met him can vouch that it is only the distinctive aroma of the Punch cigars he favours. More than a decade after he helped to break the miners' strike from Claridge's, the man who advises Michael Portillo at the Ministry of Defence is back in the firing line. Labour wants him sacked. But is he as black as he's painted?

In the past few weeks, the Tory Left have blamed Hart for Portillo's aggressively anti-federalist conference speech. Meanwhile, David Clark, Labour's defence spokesman, has made the Old Etonian property millionaire the focus of his *attack on the Government*. This week, George Galloway laid down an early day motion calling for his "immediate dismissal".

With enemies like this, it might be asked, who needs friends? For a libertarian such as Hart, the opposition of a man like Galloway — a left-wing acquaintance of Saddam Hussein — is almost *a badge of honour*. The trouble is that such charges tend to stick, and not just among socialists. Once an *éminence grise* of the *Thatcher administration*, he is rapidly becoming a *bête noire* of the more puritanical Blairite age. His activities in Suffolk, where he owns a 500-acre estate, and in London, where he runs a *property* agency, are yet again the subject of press scrutiny. As an unpaid adviser, of course, he cannot answer back.

As *someone who knows* and likes Hart, I find the extent of the opposition to him curious. In spite of his role in left-wing demonology as a uniquely wicked Svengali, he is actually a rather thoughtful man. Over lunch, he is as likely to discuss the nuances of *Withnail and I*, or his new play about Gladstone and Disraeli, as he is to hold forth on the future of Tory radicalism. In fact, his convictions are more remarkable for the strength with which they are held than for their extremism. So why the persistent smears?

I have heard two principal charges levelled against Hart. First, he is accused of being an agent of the CIA, the KGB, Mossad, or all three. This charge has *the* great attraction of being impossible to disprove. It is true that he was a good friend of Bill Casey, former Director of *the CIA, but the* idea that he is therefore a "CIA conduit" or that his massively-publicised activities in the miners' strike were a covert MI5 operation is laughable. Second, he is said to lack judgment. As Michael Gove's new biography of Michael Portillo makes clear, there are some in the Tory party who feel that Hart's influence upon the Defence Secretary is deeply regrettable.

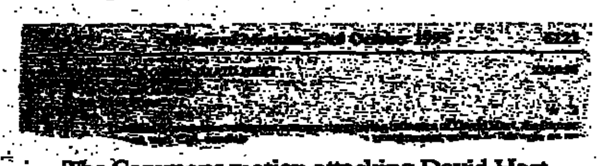
Hart: demonised

Hart has certainly made his fair *share* of mistakes. It is a matter of record that he once went bankrupt. Yet for a man of such allegedly poor judgment he has managed *to win the trust of* an impressive array of senior politicians including Malcolm Rifkind, Jonathan Aitken and Norman Lamont. *More importantly, his* work at the Ministry of Defence as unpaid adviser to Rifkind and Portillo seems to have achieved a great deal.

It is generally acknowledged *that his cost-cutting* proposals have saved the taxpayer between £150-£200 million a year. In particular, he has improved the man*agement of MoD property* and the "*civilianisation*" of tasks formerly performed by military personnel. Senior army men speak of him with *respect as a stimulating ad*vocate of intelligent change, who has brought fresh perspectives to bear on old problems. In the process, of course, *he* has raised hackles and undermined orthodoxies. He is scarcely a shy man. But this does not make him unfit to advise the Secretary of State: on the contrary.

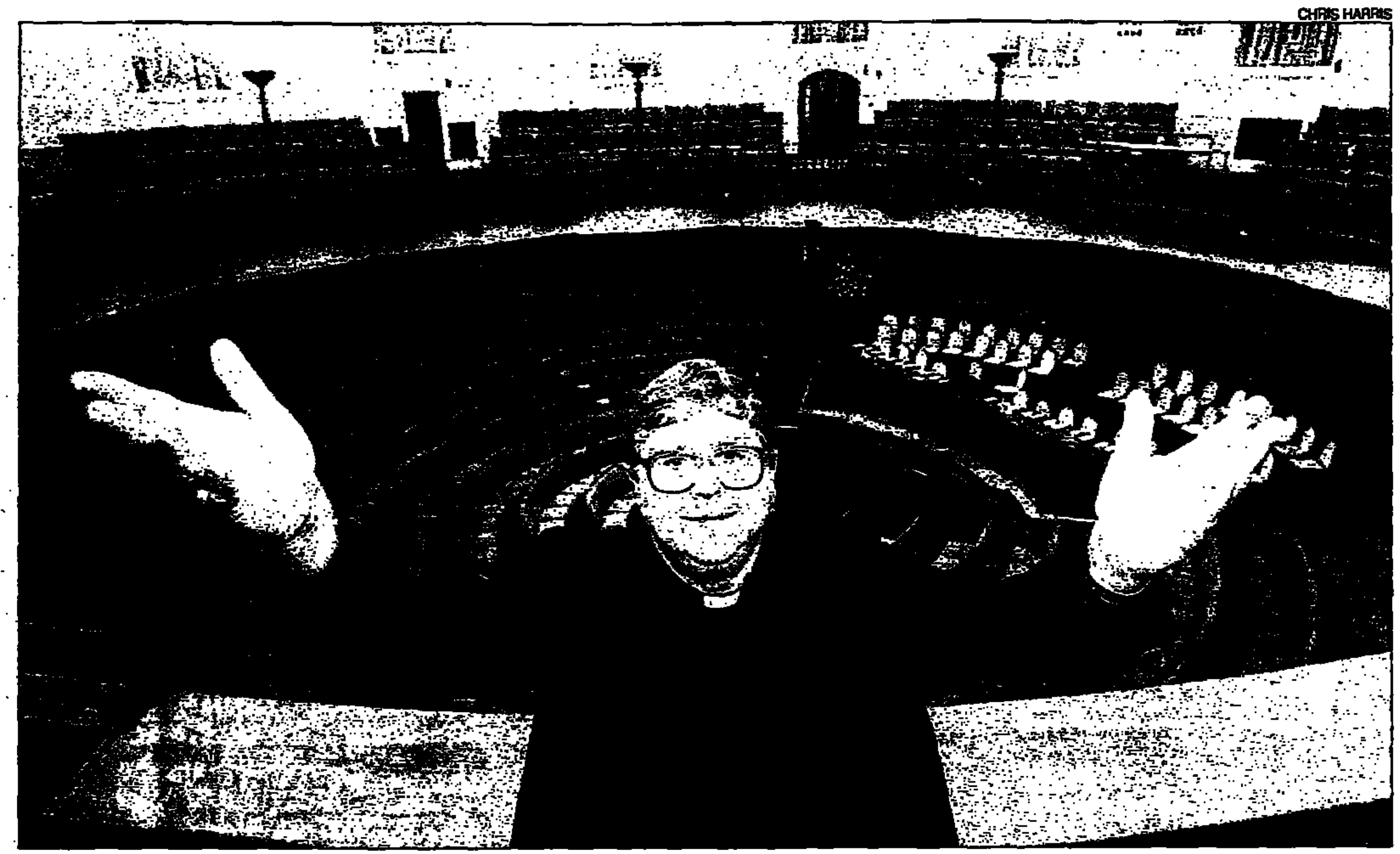
There is certainly a whiff of anti-Semitism about the vilification of Hart. There is also something quintessentially English about it. As a nation we have always sought to blame "evil counsel" for the problems of the mighty. The Duke of Buckingham played fall guy to Charles I; so did Earl Bute to *George III. Nor as a funda*mentally bourgeois people do we like the flamboyance which Hart has in spades.

Yet the current row must *also* be judged in contemporary terms. The business of government has never been more complex. The ministers of the future will be faced with questions of mind-bending technicality. They will need independent advice and lots of it. The consultants best qualified to help them will not necessarily match our stereotype of *the pin-striped Whitehall ad*viser. Labour may detest David Hart. But it is to lateral-thinking people like him that the party may soon *have* to turn.


The Commons motion attacking David Hart

Ruth Gledhill meets the outspoken Church traditionalist ousted from the General Synod

CHRIS HARRIS


The Archdeacon of York, the Venerable George Austin: The gay issue "will be far more divisive in the Church than the ordination of women"

Victim of the liberal agenda

Looking not unlike the "fat boy" of Dickens's *Pickwick Papers*, as he was famously described *by his Archbishop*, the Archdeacon of York says his wife, Bobbie, is offering up thanks that he has been ousted from the General Synod seat he has occupied for 25 years. Now he no longer *has to visit London* for meetings, with attendant lunches, and *she* can start work on removing some of his corporeal excesses. But it is the excesses in the spiritual sphere that are likely to prove more of a worry.

The Venerable George Austin, famous for *questioning* whether the Prince of Wales was fit to take his Coronation vows in the light of his marital situation, has vowed to be "even more uninhibited" in his new role as an *observer of the synod, the governing* body of the Church of England.

Austin's 64 years were held against him when the decision was made to appoint the 58-year-old Archdeacon of *Cleveland to the synod in his place*. When we met in the hotel in Victoria where he will base himself when the newly elected synod meets for the first time next month, he was humming softly: "*Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm 64*... not if you're Archdeacon of York, they won't." He believes the treatment meted out to him — he was removed abruptly with no chance to say good*bye to colleagues he has worked with* for 30 years — was unChristian and comparable to the worst in modern business practice. "It was like being told I had been *made redundant, my desk* had been cleared, to leave by the back stairs and not to say goodbye."

> 'It was like being told to leave and not say goodbye'

[redacted]

Austin invented the phrase "liberal agenda" to describe the views gaining ground in the Church. He believes it only a matter of time before practising gay clergy are ordained, a gay marriage service is provid*ed in the authorised liturgy*, God is officially "She" and "Mother", traditional morality and doctrine forsaken and New Age philosophies fully incor*porated into Church theology*.

"The bishops will cave in," he says. "That is the way the synod works. It is like Chinese water torture — drip, drip, drip. There is a kind of insidious *niceness about debate. On gays, they* will say these are such nice people. Anyone who objects will be pilloried for being homophobic." The gay issue "will be far more divisive than the ordination of women".

In the York deanery alone, he says, church attendance has fallen from 3,180 last year to 2,800 now. "That fall has not happened in the orthodox, Catholic or evangelical churches. *If a church* does not have a gospel, if you take away salvation and redemption, it becomes a social event. A faith without a gospel is not a Christian faith."

In a series of manoeuvres which Trollope would have been proud to dream up as a High Church political plot, Austin was forced off the synod after his two fellow archdeacons refused to endorse him as their representative. He sees no conspiracy in the fact that he was told *they had withdrawn their support for* him only after the deadline to stand for election to the synod's House of Clergy had passed.

The final choice fell to the Bishop of *Whitby, the Right Rev Gordon Bates*, acting as diocesan bishop while York awaited its new archbishop, Dr David Hope. He opted for the Venerable Christopher Hawthorn.

Austin says that some of his most *dire prophecies have already come to* pass. "People want a church that does not conform to the world but transforms it." He predicts a bleak future for the Church and synod. "The liberal *activists are going to progress on the* synod, but they have minority support in the Church as a whole."

Austin's biggest regret is not being able to complete his five-year term on the Crown Appointments Commission, which selects the Church's diocesan bishops, and where he was part of an influential minority of traditionalist voices, helping among others to choose the Catholic Dr Hope for York. About 12 dioceses will become vacant in the next five years, and Austin forecasts a fresh deluge of liberals.

He recalls a sermon he preached at York Minster where he warned that the next step after women priests would be a gay liberation. Gay activists this week claimed an increase in their support from less than 10 per cent to 25 per cent of the newly elected synod. As he prepares to leave, to collect further *statistics supporting his cause from the* traditional group Forward in Faith, Austin cannot resist an "I told you so".

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Philip Howard

■ What the concerned and candid friend confided to Miss Austen

It is a truth not yet universally acknowledged that sentences starting with those eight words have become a tag-dropping cliché, intended to suggest that the writer is a constant reader of Jane Austen. But it is a truth universally puffed that anyone in possession of a television set will be sitting down in front of it on Sunday night to watch the famous writer Mr Andrew Davies's conclusion to the BBC's adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* — even though unkind *Radio Times* has given away the plot.

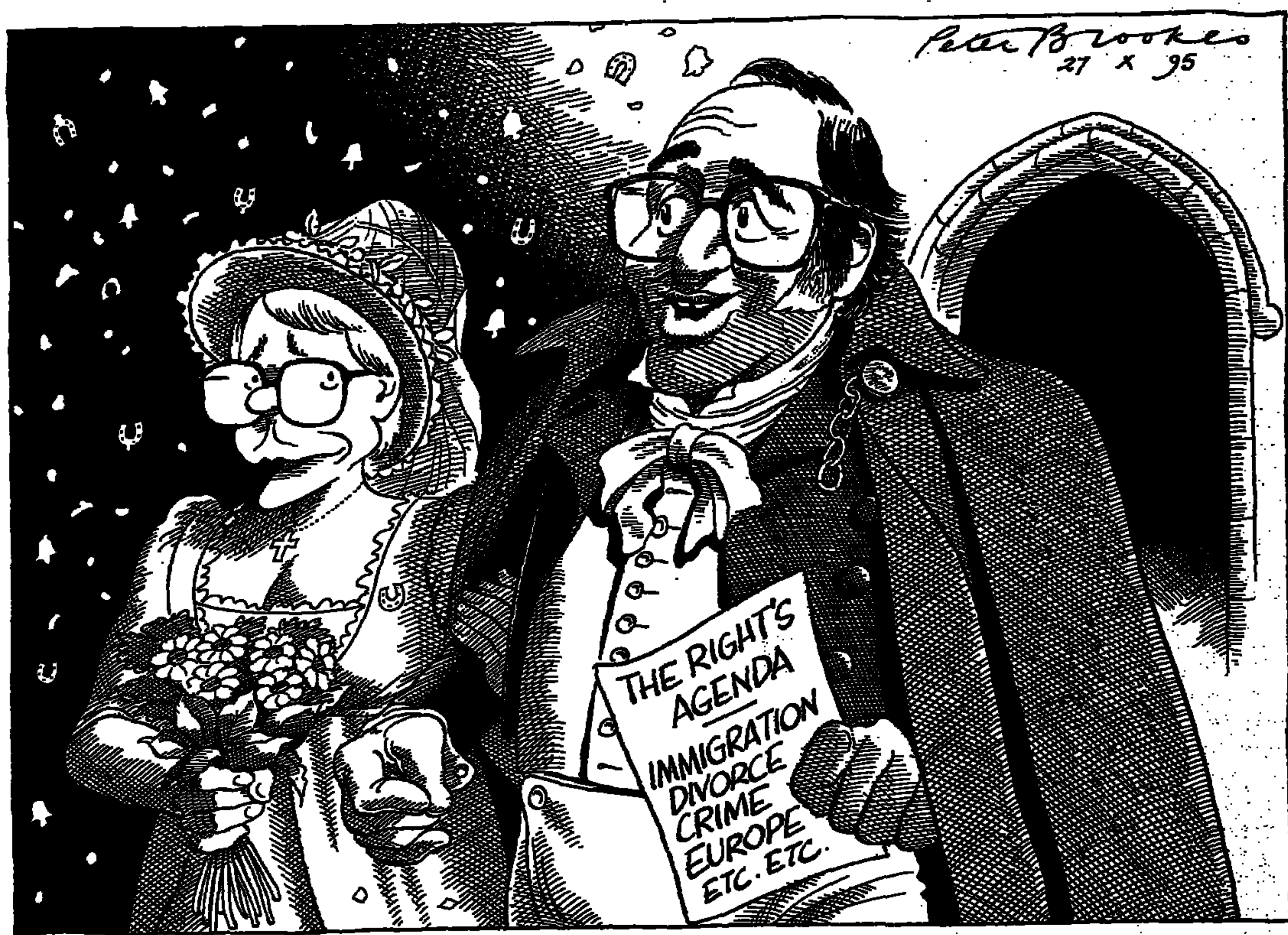
There is Jane Austen frenzy. Yet she is the most elusive and misunderstood of English writers, because she dealt in irony. Under this topic the most authoritarian of newspaper stylebooks declares: "Irony: all irony is banned." Most uses of the word "ironic" in newspapers are misuses, where strange or paradoxical is meant. In Austen's proper use, irony postulates a double audience. One party hearing (Mrs Bennet, Lydia, or Mr Collins, as it might be) shall hear and shall not understand. And another party (Mr Bennet, Lizzie, even dimly on occasions Lady Catherine de Bourgh, smelling a rat of lower-class impertinence), when more is meant than meets the ear, shall be aware both of that more and of the incomprehension of those outside the magic circle.

Her sensible friend's consolation to Jane was punctually given on the first favourable opportunity of speaking to her alone, away from the interviews and photo-opportunities. "You are too sensible a girl, Janey, to be dashed by this latest vulgarisation of your wit. You may have worked on a bit of ivory with so fine a brush as produces small effect after much labour. But television and cinema work by spray-painting graffiti on walls as wide as your Chawton workroom. They have no time for subtleties. So the present travesty makes Mrs Bennet and Mr Collins clowns instead of fools, and the tour of Pemberley fails to make its point that the Gardiners may be from the city and so not out of the top-drawer, but have intelligence, taste and good manners (unlike Darcy's grand dragon aunt). The actress playing Miss Elizabeth Bennet is too Laura-Ashley pretty and grins too much, while nobody can look at the plain one playing Jane without remembering her as the actress who was thrown off the top of those vulgar new Houses of Parliament in a television Gothick."

"My dear friend, this is being serious indeed," cried Jane. "I have to confess that I am myself in love with the Byronic young man grumping as Darcy. And when he plunged into the lake for that diaphanous underwater bathing, my heart felt quite aflutter." For Jane Austen was no bluestocking or social failure when she was young. Her neighbour, Mary Russell Mitford, wrote in a letter: "Mamma says that our countrywoman Jane Austen was the prettiest, silliest, most affected, husband-hunting butterfly she ever remembers."

Replied the candid friend: "Dear girl, you must not be put out by the Mills & Booning of your domestic romances, which replaces your irony with boobs and the raunch factor. Those who read you recognise that deep waters of the human heart and domestic claustrophobia lie beneath your comedies. I have always taken the ending of *Emma* to be not happy but a tragic horror story."

"My dear friend," replied Jane, with her knowing smile. "Whatever makes you suppose that I was so unwordly. I compute the price of everything. Mr Bennet's entailed estate yields £2,000 a year: Lizzie reckons an earl's younger son to be worth £50,000, depending on the health of the elder brother: I know the price of the furniture at Rosings; Lydia will never, Papa is sure, reach the reserve price of £10,000, which is the cost of Wickham's compliance. I reckon that with the latest *Pride and Prejudice*, five *Emmas* in production, *Clueless*, the modernisation of *Emma* set in Beverly Hills, and pretty little Hugh Grant of all people in *Sense and Sensibility* I must be a millionairess, and a catch even for the Prince of Wales. For such posthumous riches I can smile at their mistaking my wit and taking my inversions and ironies literally. For what else were we sent into this wicked world for but to laugh at its follies and endure its pains with intelligence."



PRIDE & PREJUDICE

The guilty Germans

Perpetrators of the Holocaust are now too old to pursue, but a more recent group of criminals should be tried

Bernard Levin

Do you remember Mr Butz? Perhaps I should say, did you ever hear of Mr Butz? Mind, you, it is not all that long ago that he died — hardly 20 years, if that. But of one thing we can be absolutely certain: it is that the last words he spoke would have been a denunciation of the thing he passionately denied — no winks or ahems — the gigantic fraud called the Holocaust.

He was an American, and I don't think he ever came to Britain, but to my astonishment he did reply (in a letter to *The Times*) to a mention of him in my column. I cannot remember the details of the exchange, but he must have been holding up the banner of "no Holocaust" in some way or other, and I recall that he was not raving but quite civil. Then there was that French lunatic — Faurisson, I think he was called — who beats Butz easily, for it was he who said of Hitler and Hitler's end that the Führer's downfall was because "He was too pure, too honourable". And he, too, believed, with no making it up, that this had indeed been the cause of his hero's demise.

But why do I bring up the shades of these dead crazies? For good reasons, I think, because yet another group of neo-Nazis has raised its pitiful (and usually shaven) head, not so much to denounce the Holocaust as to take on where it left off — smashing windows and painting vilenesses on walls. And when window-smashing palls, something more elevating takes the stage. Butz is dead, but others aren't: step forward Gary Lauck, an American gentleman who publishes and disseminates neo-Nazi materials, and *has been doing so for more than 20 years*.

I am sorry, and I know it will give offence when I say it, but I cannot but admire a man — even a man who sells (or gives away) hatred and evil — who sticks to his filthy guns for two decades, when he must know that his product is made of lies. He is 42 years old, and he claims that he became a Hitlerite at the age of 13, after reading *Mein Kampf*. (Ah, there is the first crack in the fabric of truth, for he did *not* read *Mein Kampf* at the age of 13 or any other age, because no one, not even me, has read it; a few pages here or there, yes, but in full, it is utterly unreadable.)

I said that I could admire him, and I fear that my admiration grows when I discover that he has grown a moustache in the shape of Hitler's, so profound is his love of his great leader. Nor does the love stop there; when he speaks to people in English he changes his native American accent for a German one. But at this point I abruptly stop admiring him for the rigidity of his beliefs, for it is very difficult indeed to admire a man who says: "In my opinion the Jews were treated too humanely. We must never make this mistake again."

Mr Lauck was arrested in Denmark, which has laws against inciting racial hatred, and Lauck will soon be extradited to Germany, where he had first been distributing his muck: he will be tried there, where he faces a minimum of five years in prison. (His original base is in the United States, which means that there he could not be prosecuted; American law does not prohibit — indeed protects — such activities, which is how he can distribute his stuff round the world.)

Had enough? Have just a bit more. Does the name Ewald Althans strike a bell? Well, for him, the bell certainly does toll, for he has just been sentenced to three-and-a-half years: he is a German citizen, and his sentence is for breaking the German law which prohibits any public claim that the Holocaust did not happen. Mr Althans makes clear — very clear — that he at least denies the Holocaust, for when groups of people were going to see, understand and face the numbed truth of Auschwitz, he used to hang about that terrible place and tell the visitors it didn't happen. Later on, he was on television in a programme about the Holocaust, and when his turn came to discuss Auschwitz he cried "What is happening here is a giant farce". Nor did he stop at that, saying: "We didn't kill them. They all survived and now they're taking money from Germany." No wonder the judge in his case called him "a mental arsonist".

Now we turn to something tragic; indeed, only the Holocaust can bring more tears. It is happening in an ancient mansion in Germany, and it is crammed from cellar to ceiling with files. Tread lightly, visitor, because you are treading on the greatest crime in all history, for the 1.6 million files in that mansion have been assembled to sieve out — and this must be the last dredgings — the remaining war criminals.

"The remaining war criminals." What words! Are they worth it? I have argued that the remaining criminals are not worth the effort of finding them, and the greater waste is that so many decades lie between the crimes and vengeance that no verdict of guilty could be safe. Those tireless searchers after the blood of innocents think otherwise, and yet they know that with every year, every month, every day, the prospect of seeking, finding, accusing and prosecuting the criminals becomes more and more chimerical. But one of the seekers said words that struck home with great force. She said: "I believe no culprit should be allowed to climb into his grave without being unmasked." It is true and right, but every time the clock ticks, it ticks for another murderer who is now beyond the power of punishment. And so little time remains, that Efraim Zuroff, one of the most powerful of the searchers-out of villainy, says: "Now I find myself in the almost unconscionable position of praying for the good health of the criminals, because I want them to come to trial."

But there is one more category of wickedness in my schedule, and that is the one — the only one, as we have seen — which harbours criminals not in their nineties but in some cases almost in their prime. It is in this search, not the one for the last tottering Jew-killer (who anyway cannot be found), that we should be ticking off our targets. For we seek out the men who shot down innocents, innocents who had no weapons, who had their babies in their arms, who had no secrets to give away, who only wanted to leave their homes for other homes, and died by the hands of men who are at this very moment saying "I was only obeying orders". Have you forgotten the Berlin Wall?

So far, those who have been punished are the mere border guards, who would indeed themselves have been shot if they had disobeyed their orders: that is why they were prosecuted for manslaughter, not murder. But now it is the turn of the generals, all of them steeped bloody in murder, and the vilest kind too. Let me name a few: Helmut Borufka, Wolfgang Rheinhold, Heinz Handke, Wilhelm Elm, Horst Steckbarth. These were not "only obeying orders"; they were *giving* the orders, as a revealing paragraph in their own minutes makes clear: "Border violators should be destroyed and all attempts to breach the defences should be prevented." And as if that isn't enough, try this: "The number of one-shot kills should be raised to the maximum."

I was there. I remember the huge billboards that told us we were approaching the danger zone, but my first view of the Wall itself is etched on my mind, and that first glimpse was of dirt. That wall was dirty, high and wicked, and for night after night after my visit I tossed and turned in the almost incredible knowledge that the Wall had been put up not because otherwise people would get in, but because otherwise people would get out.

I remember, too, my first drive *through* the Wall. My driver looked over his shoulder and tossed a West Germany newspaper, of course prohibited, *onto* a rubbish bin, not into it. I asked what he was doing; he said somebody would pick it up and read it, and give to others. But isn't that dangerous, I said? He wound down the window and spat, eloquently.

I hope those generals will go to prison and spend the rest of their lives there, but I wouldn't bet on it. Everything is different now, apart from those generals. Unfortunately, death does not stop to sort out the good and the bad: let us hope that in another, better world, things will be different. For a start, I would like to continue my chat with that brave German taxi-driver.

Cashing in on sick children

Magnus Linklater on potential clashes of news and ethics

Shroud-waving is the ugly jargon term applied to people who raise money for medical treatment by selling their stories to the papers. It is a cause for "great regret", said one judge this week, that the press is prepared to pay for such harrowing disclosures. It may indeed be regrettable, but is it wrong? Few who saw the smiling face of 11-year-old Jaymee Bowen on television last night would condemn her parents for trying to raise money in any way they can to give her the cancer treatment she needed.

Jaymee is the leukaemia victim, once known in court as Child B, who was refused treatment on the National Health Service because of the cost and poor prospects of her case. Helped by an anonymous donor, her parents took her for expensive private treatment to Dr Peter Gravett, a leukaemia specialist, and, as *Panorama* revealed, she has thrived on it. Her prospects may still be uncertain, but she is alive. Jaymee's own view is surely the best postscript to an otherwise traumatic story: "I say never give up, unless you are just on the last little drop of life."

But the aspect which troubled the judge was the money paid by a newspaper for Jaymee's story. The Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, found himself drawn into the deal because the *Daily Mirror*, which had already paid Mr and Mrs Bowen £6,500 for Jaymee's story and was making £13,500 available for more treatment, was offering a further £3,000 provided the girl could be named. Sir Thomas found himself with no alternative but to agree. "I don't think the maintenance of reporting restrictions could be justified if the consequence were the denial of treatment which might be of therapeutic and life-saving benefit," he said.

The immediate consequence was that rival newspapers, alerted to the potential of the story, began trying to muscle in on the deal, and since Jaymee is likely to need more expensive treatment, the price may yet go up — and the case could open the door to others. It raises the awful prospect of desperate parents trying to raise funds for their sick children by hawking their stories around Fleet Street like the seediest of kiss-and-tell revelations.

It is easy to condemn, but there is a dilemma here. Drawing the line between legitimate press interest in the plight of cancer victims and the free-for-all of a tabloid auction is hazardous. Most newspapers have at one time or another highlighted cases of patients in urgent need of treatment, whether they have been neglected by the NHS or are in search of a life-saving specialist abroad. For local papers in particular, this kind of story is a stock-in-trade, and some of them have won awards for launching money-raising campaigns on behalf of sick children. The recent case of Laura Davies, whose treatment in America was paid for with money raised almost entirely because of press interest, illustrates the point. Who is to say that the *Daily Mirror* should be censured for taking the process one step further and offering its own money instead? By all accounts David Bowen, Jaymee's father has handled the whole affair extremely sensibly. By telling the story in detail to the BBC, he has made it widely available in a responsible form. By dealing with the *Daily Mirror* he has raised much-needed cash for his daughter.

Nevertheless, it is in the end a demeaning way of seeking medical help, and next time around it may not be so well-handled. Parents may well be encouraged to use the services of unpalatable agents, the Max Cliffords of the medical world, in order to land the best bid for the inside story of a child's experiences. Since, almost by definition, they will have reached a state of desperation, the experience is likely to be traumatic. It is also the worst possible way of reaching a sensible medical decision or deciding whether the expense is justified by the results. As Sheila Maclean, Professor of Law and Ethics at Glasgow University, commented yesterday: "Shroud-waving is not the way to allocate resources." She made the point that children are getting preferential treatment simply because their parents go to the press for attention — "and that, by its nature, is unfair".

Ideally, when there is a chance of saving life, the NHS should be there to provide it. But doctors and hospital managers will always have to make difficult decisions about where and how funds should be allocated, and will have occasionally to tell parents that further treatment is pointless. Equally, there will be parents who will find those decisions impossible to accept. By going to a newspaper they can either highlight what they see as an injustice, or raise cash for alternative treatment.

It is here that responsibility falls on the media, and while some editors may not be unduly fastidious when it comes to waving chequebooks, others may welcome ethical guidelines. There is, as Professor Maclean points out, a distinction to be made between funds needed for medical treatment, and money handed out for personal gain. She suggests that money should only be paid if it is tied to the cost of medical treatment. It might be possible, she believes, to judge the amount in the same way as compensation payments for injury or illness.

It is advice that Fleet Street would do well to heed. The press may not be able to resist paying for hospital dramas, but it should ensure that no one gets rich on the plight of their children.

THE TIMES DIARY

Mad dash

THERE was carnage at Trinity College, Cambridge, after the matriculation dinner, when more than 100 freshers fuelled by fine wines took part in the Great Court run made famous by the film *Chariots of Fire*.

Nine of the eager contestants were taken to hospital after the run, last Friday, in which undergraduates hurried round the court crashing into bottles and glasses scattered around. One of them was reportedly trampled underfoot, another was cut so badly on broken glass that a five-hour operation was needed. One more fell out of a shopping trolley and injured her shoulder.

The college is reviewing its procedures after the race. Originally, the idea was to race round the court — which is the largest university quadrangle in Europe — at noon, before the clock has struck 24 (12 chimes for Trinity and 12 for St John's, which it borders). The race was rerun in 1988 by Seb Coe and Steve Cram: neither managed to beat the clock.

For many years, freshers have indulged in a ritual race after the matriculation dinner which involves five wine courses and drinks with the college Dean.

A third-year undergraduate says few contestants were fit to take part. "They were so hammered that they could hardly walk, let alone run," said one. A report of the event appears in this morning's edition of the university's newspaper *Varsity*. Oliver Burkeman, a news editor, says: "A taxi-driver described the evening as a scene out of *Pulp Fiction* — everything covered in blood."

Chariots of fear: the Trinity Great Court run

Club grab

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON, Sir Edward Elgar and other redoubtables who once belonged to the Savile Club must be spinning in their graves. For the first time in its 127-year history, the Mayfair club has been raided by thieves.

On Wednesday afternoon, the club's elderly members were roused from their port-soaked slumbers by a fracas at the front door. A couple of hooligans had burst in and swiped the petty cash till on the desk. Although the sum was small, members are in shock.

"It's a violation," said one. "If Sir Ralph Richardson [a former member] was still around, he would have taken them on. But none of the present lot was fast enough."

● *Sticklers for protocol believe that the Foreign Office has plumbed new depths with the release of the 1994-95 report of its know-how fund. Accompanying the report is an introduction from the Minister of State, Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, and the minister, Sir Nicholas Bonsor. The happy couple sign off as "Lynda" and "Nick".*

Spectacle

THE CHARITABLE might put it down to a painful period of transition; others would say standards are slipping. Yesterday's issue of *The Spectator*, the first since its former editor Dominic Lawson moved to *The Sunday Telegraph*, wasn't up to its usual mark.

A column by the magazine's medical writer Theodore Dalrymple was an exact repeat of one he wrote less than a month ago. The motoring column by Alan Judd ran out of fuel half way through, finishing in mid-sentence. And, in a letter from the Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, Charles Moore, the word "hereby" is mis-spelt.

Spectator staff says Dominic Lawson should answer for the mistakes. He denies responsibility, saying his replacement, Frank Johnson, should have "seen the issue away". Johnson, sadly, was unavailable for comment.

"Look it up — nobody knows what it means"

● *An unexpected drawback of the balmy autumn has foxed the paparazzi crawling about Eton for pictures of Prince William. Posing as tourists, they have been lurking about the north terrace of Windsor Castle to train their telephotos down on the school. But the trees are still thick with leaves — and they can't see a thing.*

Old enemies

DESPITE German anger over the French nuclear tests in the Pacific, Helmut Kohl and Jacques Chirac maintain that the two countries are closer than ever, after their dinner in Bonn recently.

And just to ensure that links remain firm, Kohl has appointed an envoy to maintain ties with France. He is Manfred Rommel, son of Field Marshal Rommel, the Desert Fox. Rommel Jnr is currently mayor of Stuttgart and has already been awarded the CBE for his bridge-building with Britain. He is a great friend of Viscount Montgomery, son of his father's conqueror at Alamein. But the French should remember that Rommel Snr was a French prisoner in 1945.

P·H·S

[illegible]

RATIONAL RATIONING

Hard questions posed by the Child B documentary

Last night's BBC *Panorama* programme on 11-year-old Jaymee Bowen, denied leukaemia treatment by the Cambridge and Huntingdon health authority in March, was a *moving portrait of a child's courage* in the face of ghastly ill fortune. In recent months, Jaymee, formerly known as Child B, has *made remarkable progress as a result of the* experimental treatment which her NHS doctors thought would not benefit her. Had she not been privately treated, she would probably be dead.

When the heart is scandalised, it is all the more important to keep one's head. The ethical issues raised by this documentary are *too important* to be approached otherwise. First, it must be asked whether it was right to make the girl's name public and to *interview her as bluntly as Panorama did.* On balance, the disclosure was probably justified. The grim contrast between the health authority's decision and the subsequent success of the treatment it refused to fund has made Jaymee's case of exceptional public interest. In the documentary, she appeared unusually poised and articulate for an 11-year-old. Yet this programme should not set a precedent for post-operative sensation. Not every case of this kind should be *publicised in such intimate detail.*

Second, the documentary shed unflattering light upon the decision taken by the *health authority on the basis of clinical* advice. Jaymee's own doctors were convinced that further treatment would be pointless and painful. *They knew her medical history* and felt that her interests would not be served by a further round of therapy. A cancer specialist at Hammersmith Hospital who was approached by her father disagreed. In hindsight, the health authority was proved wrong. The juxtaposition of bureaucrats speaking in jargon and a family fighting for life was unsettling to view. Yet the questions which the health authority asked earlier this year are questions which *have always been asked by doctors making* decisions about hospital budgets and the value of medical interventions. Is it clear that the treatment will benefit the patient? If the treatment is paid for, will others be denied the care they need? Has fair regard been paid to the distribution of resources to the hospital community as a whole?

There has always been rationing in the health service. It is the public debate on rationing which is new. Health managers *and the doctors who advise them* face a demanding future in which they will be held more accountable than ever for decisions such as this one. In last night's programme, Stephen Thornton, the health authority's chief executive, was subjected to cross-examination of a kind which bureaucrats have rarely faced in the past. Such *transparency should stimulate* much-needed discussion of painful issues.

The most pressing point to emerge from *this case is the uncertain future of* experimental medicine in a system which separates purchaser from provider. A health authority with finite resources will be reluctant to spend money on unproven medical procedures, as it was in this case. Yet Jaymee's progress this year illustrates how quickly an unproven procedure can become an accepted medical practice. Cancer specialists now agree that the treatment withheld from her is appropriate for child *patients. Faced with a similar case today,* many of them would urge the health authority to supply the funding.

The danger of orderly rationing is that no gambles will be taken, no hunches pursued. Every medical procedure we now take for granted, from hip replacement to heart bypass surgery, was experimental at one stage. Nobody expects health managers to waste money on moonshine. Equally, they must leave space for uncertainty and risk-taking in their budgetary decisions. These are choices which would have taxed Solomon. But they will be the warp and weft of *our health service in years to come.*

UNDER THE MAPLE TREE

Quebec belongs in Canada: to leave would be folly

There are no practical arguments in favour of Quebec's possible secession from Canada. The fuel for separation is, instead, drawn from the depths of an emotional well which other *Canadians* believe should have dried years ago. Yet when the Québécois vote on Monday, in a referendum which will determine *their province's political future,* a sizeable proportion will pay no heed to practical questions. To them, and to Lucien *Bouchard, the leader of the separatist* Bloc Québécois, the vote is seen as an opportunity to reverse the French loss at the Plains of Abraham in 1759. Nouvelle France — which was then extinguished by General Wolfe's defeat of the Marquis of Montcalm — will spring to life once more as *le Québec libre.*

That, at least, is the romantic view. But to non-Québécois Canadians, and to many French-speakers, it is an exasperating and perilous view. Not only would a majority "yes" vote unravel a *country which is* the envy of the world, it would also provoke a debt crisis of unenviable dimensions. The worried *Prime Minister,* Jean Chrétien, who kept a deliberate distance from the province's regional elections in September last year, has now thrown his full weight behind the campaign to keep Quebec Canadian.

Although the vote is certain to be far closer than that of the last referendum in 1980 — so close, in fact that the market has trembled *and the Canadian dollar* fallen by more than a cent against the US dollar — the probability of a "no" vote is still believed to be *greater than* that of a "yes" one. And so it ought to be: put prosaically, but uncontestably, living together with Canada would be cheaper for the Québécois than living as an independent, sovereign state.

M Bouchard no doubt understands this, and has tailored his party's campaign in such a way as to appear to soothe financial fears. His message, on the stump and in private, *is a significantly* diluted version of the one which was peddled by the Parti Québécois last year in its provincial assembly campaign. A "yes" *vote, he asserts, would place* Quebec in a strong position to "renegotiate its relationship with Canada". An "independent" Québécois, says M Bouchard, will retain Canada's currency and citizenship. The political and fiscal geometry of such an arrangement is difficult to envisage, as is the acquiescence of the rest of Canada to such an outcome. M Bouchard is either remarkably naive or guilty of political dishonesty.

An independent Quebec may be able to use the Canadian dollar, *but only on terms* set by Ottawa. The putative state cannot take membership of the North American Free *Trade Area for granted, nor that of Nato.* For Nafta, at least, it will have to wait its turn behind Chile and other contenders — and prove its economic fitness first. That will be no easy task: *le Québec libre* will be shackled to at least 23 per cent of Canada's national debt, which now totals a hefty £270 billion. But Quebec would certainly not in*herit Canada's credit rating: it would have to* service its debts, likely to amount to more than £56 billion, at significantly higher rates *of interest.*

The vote, however, is not centrally about sums and figures. Such votes rarely are. To a significant extent it is about the nature of the society in which the Québécois will live. Canada is open, tolerant, plural and prosperous. M Bouchard has not demonstrated how his new Wonderland will be better.

FOOD FOR FLINTSTONES

It's official: a Stone Age diet is good for you

As food faddism reaches the outer extremes of dietary eccentricity, it was inevitable that someone would suggest that modern man — and, perhaps more compellingly, modern woman — go back to the beginning. Late Paleolithic *cuisine has now been* advanced as the successor to nouvelle cuisine, whose culinary minimalism is beginning to leave carnivores *less than fulfilled.* The Royal Society of Medicine has been told that a hunter-gatherer diet of honey, lean meats, fruits, nuts, berries and raw vegetables is perfectly suited to the human frame. Our primitive cravings, nutritional needs, digestive *systems and* defences against toxins have been honed by millennia of living in drafty caves and roaming the plains in search of fodder. We *should* feed our bodies what evolution brought them up to eat. Delia Smith's Christmas offering this year must, surely, be *The Stone Age Cookbook.*

There is, of course, much to be said for such a diet. Think of all the *angst*-inducing temptations our ancestors, in *their* innocence, were able to avoid: no salt or sugar, no cream or fatty oils, no monosodium glutamate, Belgian waffles or *Sachertorte.* The diet 15,000 years ago was, admittedly, somewhat monotonous, but at least it was fresh (until last week's bison went off). And there was always the occasional excitement: a tasty fish from the local stream, a few fallen apples fermented to Stone Age *cider,* a choice cut of *mammoth* liver. But science, tediously wedded to the notion of progress, paints a somewhat blacker picture.

Evolutionists maintain that Stone Age man was undernourished, deficient in vitamins, prone to disease and early death, and with teeth ground down to stumps from chewing a Stone Age Muesli of primitive grains. There may have been *fewer* problems with reheating microwaveable curries, but the threat of salmonella, botulism and *mushroom poisoning was no less acute.* And the Darwinian survival of the fittest left many a victim behind. For every well-*nourished he-man zestfully dragging* his lady by her thick hair to the back of the cave, how many a Stone Age wimp failed to make *it first to the berry bush or failed to catch the* fleeing herd?

Reconstructing an authentic prehistoric diet is more *complicated than it seems.* Paleonutrition is an inexact science, depending on the occasional discovery of an extremely old man in a *glacier* with *his* lunch still in his stomach, and the chemical analysis of ancient skeletons. And if the Stone Age diet is to be authentic, it must include a soupçon of plants that once grew in the Paleolithic forests of Egham or animals that hid in the *marshes* of Salford. No *matter:* Rousseau's noble savage continues to excite our admiration, culinary as well as philosophical, and the *endorsement* of a medical conference can only accelerate the race back to the future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Capital growth and tax reform

From Mr David Shaw, MP for Dover, and Mr Bernard Jenkin, MP for Colchester North (Conservative)

Sir, We disagree with your *correspondents' complaints* (letters, October 23) about Kenneth Baker's proposals (article, October 17) to taper capital gains tax (CGT). Capital formation is a more valuable activity for the economy than mere earning. It is also much more difficult to achieve. It is *therefore wrong for taxation to regard* income and capital gains similarly, as now.

Lord McIntosh is concerned about tax avoidance if CGT rates were lower than income tax rates but fails to acknowledge the accumulated body of statute and case law that would prevent it. The courts are even allowed to disregard technical manoeuvres purely to convert income into a capital gain. Today, the rich avoid it anyway.

One of our constituents recently sold the business he built up from *nothing for £10 million net.* He has a deferred CGT bill of £4 million, which is easily eliminated by an 18-month stay in a tax haven abroad.

He would tolerate a 10 or 20 per cent CGT, but not 40 per cent. Sadly, the UK will lose his talents and energy as well as *the tax on his considerable* income for that period, plus the one or two millions he would have been happy to pay. What a waste! It is an open secret that the Treasury now accepts that a 20 per cent CGT rate would yield more revenue than now.

The array of reliefs, exemptions and allowances cited by Mr Brocklesby as reasons for maintaining the present punitive rate of CGT are simply attempts to ameliorate the damage it *causes to saving and enterprise.*

Finally, they should all ask themselves how other countries like Germany, the USA and Japan manage so well with little or no capital taxation.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SHAW
(Chairman, Conservative Back Bench Smaller Businesses Committee),
BERNARD JENKIN
(Vice-Chairman),
House of Commons.
October 23.

From Mr S. C. G. Pritchard

Sir, John Sinclair (letter, October 23) raises a very valid point about the iniquities of double taxation and in*heritance tax.*

The Government could make a significant move towards honouring John Major's professed intention to let wealth cascade down the generations by the immediate exemption from inheritance tax of owner-occupied property.

This would not only partially meet the commitment of the Conservatives (which Labour would find very difficult to reverse) but also end the ludicrous situation where children are forced to sell houses that they grew up in and love at a time when they are already suffering in order to pay tax.

Yours faithfully,
S. C. G. PRITCHARD,
The Towers, Sewards End,
Nr Saffron Walden, Essex.
October 24.

From Mr N. B. B. Davie-Thornhill

Sir, Mr W. A. Somers (letter, October 23) asks what the moral difference is between money received from the State and money received from inheritance. The answer is *that the giver of* the former (the taxpayer) has his money coerced from him, while the giver of the latter (the deceased) has made a choice of his own free will. The moral difference affects all of our society.

Yours faithfully,
N. THORNHILL,
Stanton Hall,
Nr Matlock, Derbyshire.
October 23.

Jewish divorce law

From Mr Hyam Maccoby

Sir, Ruth Gledhill (report, October 21) gives the impression that in a Jewish marriage only the husband has the right of divorce. In fact, the wife too has the right to divorce, on even more *liberal grounds than the* husband. The difference is that final consent to the divorce is required from the husband even after the court has granted a divorce at the suit of the wife.

If the husband refuses this consent, he is in contempt of court, and in Tal*mudic times* would have been flogged until he obeyed the court order. In *Israel today, he is put in prison for* such contempt of court. In conditions of Diaspora, neither sanction is available, so that a rare bloody-minded husband can refuse consent with impunity.

This is the difficulty which the Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, has proposed to solve by a pre-nuptial agreement by which the husband gives his consent *in advance* to any divorce ordered by the rabbinical court at the wife's petition. In the meantime, it would seem appropriate that any husband defying a rabbinical court order should be banned from communal activities.

Yours faithfully,
HYAM MACCOBY,
as from: Leo Baeck College,
80 East End Road, N3.
October 23.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Seeking a way ahead on Europe

From Mr Stephen Vizinczey

Sir, Peter Riddell writes ("Splinter party will be waste of time and money", October 24) that there is no point to the Referendum Party (advertisement, October 25) because "a referendum will almost certainly be held if Britain enters a single European currency".

The reason for the Referendum Party is the "*almost*". *Let the Conservative* and Labour Parties place a firm *commitment in their election manifestos* to hold a referendum on the single European currency and its basis, the Maastricht treaty, and the issue and the party will disappear.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN VIZINCZEY,
70 Coleherne Court,
Old Brompton Road, SW5.
October 26.

From Mr Alan Toop

Sir, Peter Riddell believes Sir James *Goldsmith's Referendum Party* "reflects a complete misunderstanding of our parliamentary system".

I should have thought that if it offers the opportunity to vote against further *European integration it will represent* our best chance of preserving that system.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN TOOP,
93 Riverview Gardens, SW13.
October 25.

From Mr Andrew Cruickshank

Sir, Peter Riddell describes Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party initiative *as anti-democratic. He is wrong.* The two most anti-democratic measures of the last 25 years were perpetrated by Conservative prime ministers: Edward Heath leading us into Europe in 1973 and John Major committing us to the path of "ever closer *union*" *in 1993.*

In neither case were the British people consulted. In 1973 we were told that all we were joining was a "common market". By 1993 the federal agenda *(the only logical outcome of* "ever closer union") had become clear and the clamour for a referendum was deafening.

Debates on health, education and law and order are futile if we are to cease being a self-governing nation. Hence, *the question of our whole relationship with Europe is* the most important on the agenda. For the most part, politicians of both major parties do not want to hear what the British people think. Sir James does. What could be *more democratic?*

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW CRUICKSHANK,
The Doone,
Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey.

From Mr Patrick Basham

Sir, Surely Peter Riddell exhibits undue haste in forecasting that Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party will be still-born.

Given Sir James's apparent willingness to match the major parties in *campaign expenditure, his party's* fortunes will depend upon such critical factors as: how it conducts its polling; the quality of its candidates; the creativity of its advertising; and the precision with which its appeal is targeted.

One only has to recall Mr Ross Perot's unconventional approach to, and influence upon, the 1992 US presidential election to appreciate that, regardless of the merits (or lack, thereof) of *his party's agenda. Sir James's intervention* foreshadows a precarious campaign for many an apparently established politician.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK BASHAM,
Magdalene College, Cambridge.

From Mr Gerald Roberts

Sir, The Referendum Party's statement of aims offers what it cannot deliver. *Whatever the outcome of a* referendum on Maastricht, there is no practical way in which the UK can either return unilaterally to the status quo before Maastricht or compel the other members of the EU to do so. Since Parliament ratified the treaty in 1993, *the choice has been stark:* "ever closer union" or the UK's withdrawal from the EU altogether.

The UK Independence Party will put this choice before the electorate at *the next general election, together with* a programme of domestic reform designed to heal the nation's divisions and fit the UK for its bracing future as a self-governing world trading nation. Sir James Goldsmith's venture into cheque-book politics is a tiresome dis*traction from the real issue.*

Yours faithfully,
GERALD ROBERTS
(National Committee,
UK Independence Party),
15 Luxemburg Gardens, W6.
October 25.

Maxwell's death

From Dr Jane Ward

Sir, Kevin Maxwell's suggestion that his father may have accidentally fallen overboard while urinating (report, October 21) is by no means as implausible as it first sounds. Emptying a full bladder is a well recognised cause of fainting.

Micturition syncope (fainting while urinating) typically affects men rising *from* a warm bed in the middle of the night to pass water. It is probably caused by *sudden* drop in blood pressure as a vasoconstrictor reflex from the distended bladder rapidly reverses as the bladder empties. Predisposing factors include alcohol ingestion and in older subjects some of the drugs used to treat high blood pressure.

Although some suffer repeated attacks, most have only one episode and when it occurs in the bathroom, serious sequelae are rare. An attack of micturition syncope while urinating over the side of a boat, however, can be expected to have more serious consequences.

The literature on this condition includes a description of a man who suffered four episodes of micturition syncope, *the last of which occurred when* he rose in the middle of the night to urinate over the side of his boat. As often happens in this form of fainting, he had no warning of impending loss of consciousness.

His wife found him floating face down in the water but luckily he quickly regained consciousness and managed to climb aboard the boat which, unlike Maxwell's, was anchored at the time.

Yours faithfully,
JANE WARD
(Lecturer in Physiology),
United Medical and Dental Schools of
Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital,
St Thomas' Hospital,
Lambeth Palace Road, SE1.
October 23.

Costly programmes

From Mr Ralph Elsley

Sir, *As a regular theatregoer for the* last 50 years I write to protest about the steadily increasing charges for programmes. I recently paid £2.50 for the booklet issued by the Welsh National Opera for *Nabucco.* Apart from a brief and none-too-lucid synopsis, I *found it to be a rag-bag of semi-relevant* articles, some even less relevant photographs, and of course the usual parade of potted histories of the performers.

Last year at Buxton I was denied any information whatever about the operas or a recital by Thomas Allen unless I forked out £5 for a glossy *festival programme.*

If theatre companies want and need to make money by producing souvenirs of this kind for those who want them, all well and good; but should they not follow the example of the RSC and others in also issuing wholly in*formative cast lists free of charge?*

Yours faithfully,
RALPH ELSLEY,
The Old House, Philcote Street,
Deddington, Oxfordshire.
October 25.

A 'Ring' too far?

From Ms Lesley Chamberlain

Sir, You gave space today to letters from two critics of *Götterdämmerung* who had apparently not even seen *Richard Jones's brilliantly civilised* production for Covent Garden. I relished Jones's entire *Ring.* Here at last is a director who can give us Wagner full of meaning but without ideology. *This is just what the end of the 20th* century needs.

Yours sincerely,
LESLEY CHAMBERLAIN,
93b Bedford Hill, SW12.
October 23.

Nadir charges

From the Director of the Serious Fraud Office

Sir, In your reports by Jon Ashworth (October 20) and Pennington (October 24), your correspondents refer to the possibility of Asil Nadir returning to Britain as a free man, without a reasonable explanation as to how this would *come* about.

Asil Nadir is a fugitive from justice and a warrant for his arrest is outstanding. On his return to Britain he would face criminal charges of theft relating to the collapse of Polly Peck. Nothing has happened which has altered the Serious Fraud Office's position on this matter.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE STAPLE, Director,
Serious Fraud Office,
Elm House, 10-16 Elm Street, WC1.

Angling under fire

From Mr Les Jones

Sir, Your correspondent Mr McNally (letter, October 20) welcomes the identification of the anglers' cause with that of shooting and of fox-hunting. *I find it difficult to agree.*

As an enthusiastic sea and trout fisherman, I appreciate the moral ar*gument that* coarse fishermen (who return their catch live) and sea and trout/salmon fishermen (who eat their catch) can be compared with those who shoot game, whether rough or driven. *However, I fail to see the* identification with fox-hunters, for whom Oscar Wilde had a very accurate and widely known description.

Yours faithfully,
LES JONES,
28 Mill Street,
Cwmfelin, Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan.

Sports letters, page 42

Discordant notes on the airwaves

From Miss Elizabeth Erskine

Sir, Peter Barnard makes two very questionable assertions in saying ("After the storm", Arts, October 20) that "Paul Gambaccini is one of the best broadcasters around" and that Radio 3 listeners are prejudiced against him because he is American, has a background in pop music and comes from Classic FM.

This Radio 3 listener had never heard, or heard of, Paul Gambaccini before last Tuesday week, and knew *nothing of his background until* Peter Barnard's piece, but I certainly have three objections to his *Morning Collection.* They are: his less than startling choice of music, the tone of Heepish ingratiation in which he presents it and its displacing the vastly more stimulating *Composer of the Week* series to a (for me) impossible time.

Not prejudiced at all, you see!

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH ERSKINE,
16 Albert Street, Cambridge.
October 23.

From Mr C. M. Dawson

Sir, I am not of "the shires" and enjoy Classic FM quite a lot. But when I heard that Paul Gambaccini *was to* "present" music on Radio 3 I wrote to the Controller protesting that he was supposed to design a service to uplift, educate and entertain, not to produce nauseating soap.

There is already too much time-*wasting* "chat" *without Gambaccini's* inconsequential babble. His first "presentation" was disastrous.

I have written again to the Controller *and* turned off. I can listen to lots of music (including on Radio 3) without it being ruined as a listening experience by tenth-rate comment.

Yours,
C. M. DAWSON,
8 Foxes Dale, Blackheath, SE3.
October 20.

From Mr Roger Warren

Sir, Peter Barnard is on the whole fair to Paul Gambaccini, but unfair to Radio 3's regular listeners. If they anticipated a maximum of "inane cackle" *to a minimum of musical substance,* that was simply because Nicholas Kenyon's regime has led them to do so.

Barnard rightly claims that "broadcasting is a craft best left to broadcasters", but virtually none of Ken*yon's announcers exhibits any broadcasting* skills or training; Barnard's ironic phrase, "we are all broadcasters now", in fact perfectly sums up Kenyon's own approach.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER WARREN,
University of Leicester,
English Department,
Leicester LE1 7RH.
October 20.

Law complaints

From the Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, Martin Mears, the Law Society President, has given consumers an all-too-graphic example of the arrogance with which a significant minority of solicitors treat complaints ("Time to question the *Which?* hunts", Law, October 17).

It is difficult to see how anyone who dismisses complainants as people who count "the number of crisps in a crisp packet" can lead the way in reducing formal complaints against his profession. Complaints are currently running at one for every three practising lawyers: most relate to lack of information about cost and unexplained delays.

Unfocused attacks on complaining, which bear little relevance to the types of complaints actually made against solicitors, will do nothing to raise public confidence in the profession.

Yours faithfully,
RUTH EVANS, Director,
National Consumer Council,
20 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1.

Pride of place

From Mrs Julia Wyld

Sir, You are no better than the *Radio Times, in giving away the ending of Pride and Prejudice* (report and photograph, October 26). *I will ensure* my 10-year-old son who is gripped by the story does not see today's paper. There are many, not only children, who are following this story for the *first time. Surely they should* be allowed to wait and wonder as to what will happen this *Sunday,* however predictable it may be.

Yours faithfully,
JULIA WYLD,
White Ox Mead Farm,
Peasedown St John, Bath, Avon.
October 26.

From Ms Carol Debell

Sir, I can't wait to see tomorrow's edition of *The Times* to find out where you've put Mr Darcy. On Tuesday his *portrait* was on the *front page.* Yesterday he was on horseback to illustrate an interview with Colin Firth. Today, he's on page 5 with a photograph from the final episode. Please *keep it up — it is so much more fun* than the news.

Yours in anticipation,
CAROL DEBELL,
69 Merfield Road, SW15.
October 26.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 26: Admiral Sir Hugo White was received by The Queen upon his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar.

His Excellency Señor Rodney Lopez was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Cuba to the Court of St James's.

Señora de Lopez was also received by The Queen.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

The Right Reverend and Rt Hon Dr David Hope was received in audience by The Queen upon relinquishing his appointments as Bishop of London and Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal and delivered up the Badge and Chain of his Office as Prelate of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Commander of the Royal Victoria Order.

The Right Reverend and Rt Hon Dr David Hope did homage upon his appointment as Archbishop of York.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President of the Council) administered the Oath.

The Bishop of Chelmsford (Clerk of the Closet) was in attendance.

Mr Louis de Bernières (winner of the Commonwealth Writers Prize) was received by The Queen.

Sir Richard Luce (Chairman of the Commonwealth Foundation) and Dr Humayun Khan (Director) were present.

Mr Timothy Kirkhope MP was received by Her Majesty and delivered up his Wand of Office as Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

Mr Andrew MacKay MP was received by The Queen and received from Her Majesty his Wand of Office as Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

The Queen, Patron, London Symphony Orchestra, this evening attended a Gala Concert at the Barbican Centre, London EC2, to mark the appointment of Sir Colin Davis as Principal Conductor and was received by the Managing Director, London Symphony Orchestra (Mr Clive Gillinson) and the Chamberlain of London and Acting Managing Director of the Barbican Centre (Mr Bernard Harty).

October 26: The Duke of York this evening attended the Annual Combined Mess Dinner and Trafalgar Night at Britannia Naval College, Dartmouth, Devon.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 26: The Princess of Wales, Vice President, British Red Cross Society, this evening attended the film premiere of "Haunted" in aid of the Society and the European Anorexia Trust at the Empire Cinema, Leicester Square, London WC2.

October 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, this afternoon visited South Glamorgan and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, The Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom, visited Ty Maeth, the Headquarters of the Welsh Board in Cardiff, to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the opening of the building.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, later opened the Barry Hospital, Colcot Road, Barry.

The Hon Mrs Whitehead was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 26: The Duke of Gloucester this evening attended a Reception to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Vision Aid Overseas at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1.

YORK HOUSE
October 26: The Duchess of Kent this morning presented the BT/Childline Awards for Services to Children 1995, the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel, Cadogan Place, London SW1.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, as patron, will attend the closing session of the national conference of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation in the Pavilion, Ascot Racecourse, at 4.00.

The Duke of York, as Colonel-in-Chief, will attend a dinner of The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's) Officers' Dinner and Luncheon Club at Tallow Chandlers' Hall at 7.10.

Princess Margaret will attend a gala evening at Castle Howard, North Yorkshire, at 7.15 in aid of the Northern Police Convalescent Home.

Luncheons

Lord Ezra
Lord Ezra, President of the Combustion Engineering Association, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the House of Lords. Mr Martin O'Neill, MP, Mr Andrew Wilkinson, Mr Bryan Riddleston and Miss Elizabeth Williams were the guests of honour. Lord Donoughue and Lord Renwick were also present.

Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies
Major-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, President of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, presided at a convocation luncheon held yesterday onboard HQS Wellington, London, and presented the Julian Bickersteth memorial medal to Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch, President of the Academie Internationale d'Heraldique. Sir Robert Balchin also spoke. Among those present were:
The Duke of Norfolk (patron), Archbishop Bruno B Heim (vice-president), Lady Balchin, Mr J P Brooke-Little (Clarenceux King of Arms) and Mr and Cecil Humphery-Smith.

Birthdays today

Lord Ashtown, 79; Lady Baden-Powell, former chief commissioner, The Girl Guides Association, 59; Mr David Bryant, bowler, 64; Mr John Cleese, actor and comedian, 56; Vice-Admiral Sir John Cox, 67; Dr John Dingle, President, Hughes Hall, Cambridge, 68; the Earl of Dunraven, 56; Sir Paul Fox, former managing director, BBC Television, 70; Lord Glendyne, 69; Mr Glen Hoddle, football manager, 38; Sir John Hunt, MP, 66; Mr P.T. Hurst, Chief Taxing Master of the Supreme Court, 53; Lieutenant-General Sir Maurice Johnston, 66; Sir Raymond Johnstone, former chairman, Forestry Commission, 66; Mr Nicholas Jones, managing-director, Lazard Bros, 49; Admiral Sir John Kerr, 58; Major-General H.M. Liardet, 89; Sir Brian McGrath, royal equerry, 70; Mr Tom McKean, athlete, 32; Sir Anthony Meyer, former MP, 75; Mr Lawrence Edward Neal, former chairman, Daniel Neal, 100; Sir Frank Roberts, diplomat, 88; Mr Leonard Rosoman, painter, 82; Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm Ross, comptroller, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 52; Professor B.E. Supple, former Master, St Catharine's College, Cambridge, 65; Mr Chris Tavaré, cricketer, 41; Dr A.W. Tyson, musicologist and psycho-analyst, 69; Air Chief Marshal Sir John Willis, 58; Mr A.N. Wilson, author, 45.

Reception

Commonwealth Writers Prize
Sir Richard Luce, Chairman of the Commonwealth Foundation, and Dr Humayun Khan, director, received the guests at a reception held yesterday at the Royal Over-Seas League in honour of Mr Louis de Bernieres, winner of the 1995 Commonwealth Writers prize.

ANDRÉ CAMARA

The Duchess of Kent presenting the BT/Childline Awards for Services to Children 1995 at the Hyatt Carlton Tower hotel, London, yesterday. Beside her is Julie Stokes, the overall winner, and, far left, Jill Moss, another winner

Dinners

Army Board
The Hon Nicholas Soames, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, was the host at a dinner given by the Army Board last night at the Royal Hospital Chelsea in honour of General Abdul Waheed, Chief of Army Staff, Pakistan Army. Among those present were:
The High Commissioner for Pakistan and Mrs Shamsul Hasan, Begum Waheed, the Hon Mrs Nicholas Soames, General Sir Charles and Lady Guthrie, General Sir Michael and Lady Rose, General Sir John Wilsey, General Sir Michael de la Billière, General Sir Brian and Lady Kenny, Lieutenant-General Sir James and the Hon Lady Wilson, Sir Moray and Lady Stewart, Sir John and Lady Coles, Sir Nicholas Barrington, Lieutenant-General and Mrs Robert Hayman-Joyce, Major-General and Mrs Tim Granville-Chapman, Lieutenant-General Khalid Nawaz Mallik, Major-General Malik Mohammad Saleem Khan, Brigadier Javaid Afzal Khan, Brigadier Digby O'Lone and Colonel Ahmed Mukhtar.

British Red Cross
The Princess of Wales, as Patron of the British Red Cross 125th Birthday Appeal, was the guest of honour at the premiere of *Haunted* held last night at the Empire, Leicester Square, in aid of the British Red Cross 125th birthday appeal and the European Anorexia Trust.

Mr Anthony Andrews, Mr Sheridan Morley and Mr John F. Gray, Director of Public Affairs, British Red Cross, were the speakers at a dinner held afterwards at Café Nico, Grosvenor House. Among those present were:
The Duke of Northumberland, Sir Tim Rice, Ms Melanie Griffiths, Mr Antonio Banderas, Mr Robert Powell, Ms Anneka Rice, Mr Michael Ball, Mr James Herbert, Ms Anna Massey, Ms Kate Beckinsale, Mr Lewis Gilbert, Mr Paul Young, Mr Nick Rhodes, Mr Terry O'Neill and Mrs Elspeth Thomas, chairman of council, British Red Cross.

The Scriveners Company
Mr H.J.W. Harman, Master, presided at the annual Ladies' Dinner of the Scriveners Company held last night at Apothecaries' Hall, and made a presentation to Lieutenant A.J. Poole, Royal Navy, representing the Captain of *HMS Beaver*, the Company's adopted Ship. The principal guests were Mr David Emms, Past Master of the Skinners Company, and Mrs Emms. Mrs Sue Harman replied to the Toast to the Ladies. Among the guests were:
The Masters and Clerks of the Apothecaries' Society, and the Turners' and Master Mariners' Companies, and their Ladies, and Sir Christopher and Lady France.

Guild of Management Consultants
Earl Ferrers was the principal guest at the installation dinner of the Guild of Management Consultants held last night at Skinners' Hall. Mr Calvert Markham, Master, presided. The Masters of the Fan Makers', Chartered Accountants' and Marketors' Companies and the President of the Institute of Management Consultants were also present.

European-Atlantic Group
Sir Dudley Smith, MP, President of the Western European Union Assembly, was the principal speaker at a dinner-discussion of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, president of the group, was in the chair. Lord Dahrendorf, chairman, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald and Sir Frederic Bennett also spoke. Ambassadors, High Commissioners, other Members of the Diplomatic Corps, and members of both Houses of Parliament were among those present.

Chambers of Jocelyn Gibbs and Carl Teper
The Annual Dinner of the Chambers of Jocelyn Gibbs and Carl Teper was held last night at The Baltic Exchange. The principal guests and speakers were Mr Justice Hooper and His Honour Judge Sanders. Mr Malcolm Weisman welcomed the guests and Mr Carl Teper proposed the toast to them. Grace was said by Father John King and Mr Giles Tippett proposed the loyal toast. A presentation was made by Chambers to Mrs Hazel Rose on her retirement as an Immigration Adjudicator.

The guests included:
Lord Boston of Faversham, QC, and Lady Boston, Lord and Lady Butterworth, Baroness Faithfull (Chairwoman, The Caldecott Community), Lady Hooper, Her Honour Judge Goddard, QC, Judge and Mrs Coombe, Judge and Mrs Cooray, Judge and Mrs Rucker, Judge and Mrs Watts, Judge Wilkinson, His Honour Evelyn F. Monier-Williams, Professor David Casson, Mr Bruce Coles, QC (Chairman of the Race Relations Committee of the Bar Council), and Mrs Coles, Mr Gerard Elias, QC, and Mrs Elias, Mr Peter Feinberg, QC, and Mrs Feinberg, Mr Jeremy Connor, Mr Adrian Keane, Dr Susan Teper, Mr Andrew Harman, Miss Margot Lound, Miss Penny Muir, Mr Jeffrey Clarke, Mr Clive Ince, Mr Nick Trainer, Mr David Calderhead, Miss Nadine Calderhead and Mr Richard Thomason.

Flyfishers' Club
Mr Dennis Silk was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Flyfishers' Club held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr P.J.S. Rawson presided.

Service dinners

Royal Marines
Lieutenant General Sir Robert Ross, Commandant General Royal Marines, presided at a dinner held last night in the Commando Forces Officers' Mess, Plymouth. The guests were:
Vice Admiral Sir Roy Newman, KCB, Flag Officer Plymouth; Vice Admiral Sir Toby Frere, Chief of Fleet Support; Major-General R. Spiekerman Van Weezelenburg, Commandant Royal Netherlands Marine Corps; Mr A.B. Brooker, Master of the Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers; Captain P. Hames RN, Clerk of the Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers; Commander R.H. Walker, Honorary Colonel RMR Merseyside; Colonel C.M.G. Campion, Honorary Colonel RMR City of London; Colonel Sir Robert Smith, Honorary Colonel, RMR Scotland; Surgeon Captain R.J. Jolly RN, Assistant Chief of Staff Medical Services, Headquarters Royal Marines.

Advanced Class Dinner Club
Mr John Chisholm, Chief Executive of the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Advanced Class Dinner Club held last night at Woolwich. Major-General E.F.G. Burton, president of the club, was in the chair.

Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Association, Northern Ireland
The Fourth Annual Dinner of the Association was held at Hillsborough Castle on Thursday, October 26, 1995. Colonel Lord O'Neill, President of the Association, presided and the guest speaker was Lord Younger of Prestwick.

Arkwright 6th Form Scholarships

The 1995 Arkwright Awards for Design and Technology will be presented by Mr John Wybrew, Shell UK Ltd, today to:
James Ashford, Hayfield S, Doncaster; Matthew Baker, Tarporley County High S, Cheshire; Michael Bond, King's S, Bruton; Daniel Broughton, Clitheroe Royal GS; Jan Bunes, Eggbuckland CC, Plymouth; Matthew Chandler, Monmouth S; Paul Clarkson, Clitheroe Royal GS; George Desoutter, Oundle S; Kevin Eadie, Strathallan S; Kit Evans, Trent C, Notts; Timothy Fitzgerald, Sevenoaks S; Graeme Flint, Balwearie HS, Fife; Nicholas Gould, Dunblane HS, Scotland; Barry Griffiths, Reading S; Giles Holder, Oundle S; Ben Henson, John Leggott VIth C, Scunthorpe; Christopher Irwin, RGS, Newcastle; Alexandra Lindsey, Roedean S; Jennifer Littleford, Strathallan S; Laura Luckraft, St Antony's-Leweston S, Dorset; Eleanor Marshall, Sandon S, Essex; Guy Martin, Framlingham C; Robin Pick, Pocklington S; Edward Randall, Liverpool C; Gillian Roberts, Hurstpierpoint C, Sussex; Aidan Robson, George Watson's C, Edinburgh; Stefan Ross, St Paul's S, London; Thomas Stinton, New College VIth C, Telford; Michael Strang, Musselburgh GS; Deborah Syrop, Bishop of Llandaff HS, Cardiff; Russell Tarver, KES, Birmingham; Christopher Thear, Haileybury, Hertford; Amy Tomlin, Haberdashers' Monmouth S for Girls; Gareth Welton, Eggbuckland CC, Plymouth; Malcolm West, Ackworth S, Yorks; Karly-Jane Westlake, Blue S, Wells; Amy Worsell, Bolton S, Girls' Division.

We would like to thank the following Trusts, Companies and Organisations for sponsoring these Scholars:
The Craignish Trust, Emmott Foundation, Gannochy Trust, Inchcape Foundation, MacRobert Trusts, Mercers' Company Ed Trust, SFIA Ed Trust, Save & Prosper Ed Trust, Smallpeice Trust, APV, TI Group, British Aerospace (Plymouth), Christian Salvesen, FKI, Lloyds Bank, Lloyd's Register of Shipping, Mitsubishi Engineering, Morris Ashby Castings, Ove Arup, Pilkingtons, Powergen (Ferrybridge), Scottish & Newcastle, Shepherd Building Group, Stannah Lifts, Unilever, WISE.

Two hundred schools now offer Arkwright Scholarships for sixth formers wishing to read Engineering, Design and Technology at University. Further information from Tony Pickering, Bradstone House, 4 Courtlands, Shipton-under-Wychwood, Oxon OX7 6DR.

Forthcoming marriages

***Mr C.B.P. Beauchamp* and Miss H.A.V. Meacock**
The engagement is announced between Charlie, elder son of Sir Christopher and Lady Beauchamp, of Sidmouth, Devon, and Harriet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Meacock, of West Hoathly, West Sussex.

Lieutenant C.R. Bailer, RN and Miss A.I. Brooks
The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of Captain and Mrs Tony Bailer, RN, of Kingsbridge, Devon, and Alexandra, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Brooks, of Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr N.E.J. Bruce and Miss I.C. Erskine
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of the Hon David and Mrs Bruce, of Blairhill, Rumbling Bridge, Kinross-shire, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Erskine, of Cleish House, Cleish, Kinross-shire.

Mr D. Cherrington and Miss E. Sindall
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs Rowan Cherrington, of Chute Forest, Andover, Hampshire, and Emma, youngest daughter of Mr Barrie Langford Sindall, of Ringwood, Hampshire, and Mrs Susan Slater, of Houghton, Hampshire.

Mr P.J.T. Cooper and Miss H.P. Collins
The engagement is announced between Patrick, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Cooper, of Burnham Market, Norfolk, and Hazel, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Collins, of Hatch End, Middlesex.

Mr B.R. Lawrence and Miss G. Evans
The engagement is announced between Barclay, only son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Lawrence, of Norwich, Norfolk, and Gail, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Cedric Evans, of Chilworth, Southampton.

Mr S.J.N. Marcon and Miss K. Borchers
The engagement is announced between Stephen, eldest son of Richard and Selina Marcon, of Oldcastle, Ledbury, Herefordshire, and Kerrin, youngest daughter of Victor and Florence Borchers, of Tzaneen, Northern Transvaal, South Africa.

Mr R.W. Moss and Miss J.E. Acton
The engagement is announced between Roland, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Moss, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Acton, of Winchester, Hampshire.

Mr A.F. Routh and Miss C. Caisley
The engagement is announced between Adam, youngest son of the late Dr Guy Routh, and of Mrs Thelma Routh, of Cape Town, South Africa, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Caisley, of Pimlico, London.

Mr C. Roy and Miss C. Barker
The engagement is announced between Carrick, younger son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Roy, of Livingston, Lothian, and Claire, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Barker, of Folkestone, Kent.

***Mr S.W. Webb* and Miss A.M.J. Berry**
The engagement is announced between Stephen William, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Webb, of Wimbledon, and Andrea Margaret Justina, younger daughter of the Rev and Mrs David Berry, of St Aidan's Vicarage, Barrow-in-Furness.

Mr S.D. Wills and Miss N. Harding
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of the late Mr Robert Wills and of Mrs Genevieve Wills, of Northampton, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Harding, of Florida, USA.

Marriages

Lord Durham and Miss C. FitzGerald
The marriage of Lord Durham, only son of Lord and Lady Lambton, to Catherine FitzGerald, eldest daughter of the Knight of Glin and Madam FitzGerald, took place in London, on Thursday, October 19, 1995.

Mr T.M. Malone and Miss L.C. Wyer
The marriage took place in Christ's Chapel, Dulwich, on October 21 of Mr Tyler Malone and Miss Lucy Camilla Wyer.

Mr R.G.P. Plowden and Miss H.M.E. Gilbey
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 21 at St Luke's, Wincanton, of Mr Roger Plowden to Miss Helen Gilbey. The Bishop of Brentwood, the Right Rev Thomas McMahon, officiated, assisted by the Rev R. Thatcher. Monsignor Alfred Gilbey was robed in the sanctuary.

The bride was attended by Hettie Swire, Sophie Crosbie-Dawson, Charlotte Gilbey, Harriet Colville and Charlotte Dennis. Mr Patrick Bailey was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr J.D. Sieff and Miss H.A. Bernerd
The marriage took place on Sunday, October 22, at Cliveden, of Jonathan Sieff, younger son of the Hon Mr and Mrs David Sieff, and Hayley, younger daughter of Mr Elliott Bernerd and Mrs Susan Bernerd. Rabbi Albert Friedlander officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Natasha Devlin, Florence and Tomasina Saunders and Guy Laurie. Mr Simon Sieff and Mr Peter Dubens were the best men.

A reception and dinner was held at Cliveden following the ceremony and the honeymoon is being spent in Bali.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Desiderius Erasmus, scholar, Rotterdam, 1466; James Cook, navigator, Marton, Yorkshire, 1728; Niccolo Paganini, violinist, Genoa, 1782; Isaac Singer, inventor of the sewing machine, Pittstown, New York, 1811; Sir William Smith, founder of the Boys' Brigade, Thurso, Caithness, 1854; Theodore Roosevelt, 26th American President 1901-09, New York, 1858; Dylan Thomas, poet, Swansea, 1914.

DEATHS: Athelstan, King of the English 926-940, Gloucester, 940; George Morland, painter, London, 1806; Charles Hawtrey, actor, Deal, 1988.

The New York Subway was opened by Mayor McLellan, 1904.

The Republic of the Congo changed its name to the Republic of Zaire, 1971.

Lecture

Institute of Wastes Management
Professor Robert Worcester, Chairman of MORI, delivered the inaugural Institute of Wastes Management presidential lecture last night at the Institution of Civil Engineers. Mr John Birch, president of the institute, presided. The Earl of Arran, Viscount Massereene and Ferrard, Baroness David, Lord Lucas of Chilworth and Lord Nathan were present.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 9313
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Many will praise his intelligence, and it will never be forgotten. The memory of him will not die, and his name will live for ever and ever.
Ecclesiasticus 39 : 9 (REB)

BIRTHS

BROUGHTON - On 23rd October 1995, to Clare Hulton and Robbie, a daughter, Isabella Cecilia.

CORNWELL - On Wednesday 25th October, to Carolyn and Andrew, a son, Alexander James.

DUNNE - On October 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Margaret and David, a beautiful 10lb son, Ian, a brother for Mairéad.

GABBERTAS - On 22nd October 1995, to Emma (née Scarborough) and Richard, a daughter, Minna Jane, a sister for Freddie.

HEATH - On October 24th at The King George Hospital, to Dan and Emma, a son, Max William.

JACKSON - On September 26th, to Carole (née Ord) and Andrew, the gift of a son, Alexander.

MACNAB - On 23rd October 1995, to Camilla (née Brindley) and Kenneth, a daughter, Elinor Mary Kirsten.

McDONALD - On 18th October 1995, in Oxford, to Jacqueline (née Hibbert) and Stuart, a daughter, Georgina Lucy Kathleen, a half-sister for James, Jane, Laura and William.

MONCKTON - On 24th October 1995 at The Portland Hospital, to Homeyra and John, a daughter, Isabel Veronica Mary, a sister for Sabrina.

OTWAY - On October 18th, to Sarah (née Maddan) and James, a son, Martin Julian.

SESEMANN - On October 17th, to Elaine (née Marsden) and Andrew, a daughter, Jennifer Louise, a sister for James.

THOMPSON - On 24th October 1995, to Paula (née Donaghy) and Rhodri, a son, Patrick Rhodri George, a brother for Conagh.

DEATHS

BADENI - Jan, beloved husband of June and father of Michael and Mary, peacefully on 25th October. Funeral private. Donations if desired to Polish Knights of Malta, Speranza, Coombe Park, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT2 7JD.

BALAKUMAR - Nadaraja, Consultant in Genito-Urinary Medicine at James Paget Hospital, Gorleston. Beloved husband of Johanbihal, loving father of Sivahamy and Shakthi and beloved son of Sivapackiam Nadaraja; passed away on October 24th 1995. Cremation at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich, on Saturday October 28th at 2 pm. Flowers to Gordon Barber Funeral Home, 2 St Williams Way, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich NR7 0AW by 10am please.

BOAS - Philip on October 24th peacefully after a short illness, beloved brother of Betty and dearly loved friend of Elizabeth. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service to be announced later.

BRADLEY - On October 23rd in Worcester, Eliza aged 88 years, the daughter of Mr H.H. and Mrs Bradley of Tiralba, New South Wales, Australia, and the niece of Raymond Bradley, a beloved cousin to many. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Ombersley, on Friday November 3rd at 2.30pm. Family flowers only but if wished donations to Ombersley Medical Centre c/o A.V. Band (Funeral Directors), 41 St Nicholas Street, Worcester.

CRAWFORD - On 25th October 1995 in Geneva, Lady Clio Crawford, Widow of the late Sir Frederick Crawford. Beloved mother of Alec and Tony, and grandmother of Clio, Vassos, Vassos-John, Nicholas, Deana and Philip. Funeral Service on Monday 30th October at 2 pm at l'Eglise Orthodoxe Grecque, Chemin des Cornillons, Chambésy, Geneva.

FIELD - On October 26th 1995, peacefully at home, Guy aged 69. Deeply loved husband of Dorothy, father of Sonya and Alastair, only son of Maguette and the late Norman Field. Service at St Mary the Virgin, Buckland, Surrey 12 noon on Thursday November 2nd. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for St Catherines Hospice, Crawley c/o Stoneman Funeral Service, Doran Court, Redhill.

FRASER - Neil Alexander on 10th October aged 55, dearly loved and missed by all his family. Cremation private. Memorial Service 11 am Saturday 28th October at St Mary's Church, Old Amersham, Bucks. Donations to R.N.L.I. c/o Grimsteads Ltd., 25 Chesham Road, Amersham, HP6 5HN. tel: (01494) 434393.

GERRARD - On Tuesday October 24th. Peacefully in her sleep, Nancy of Groombridge, Kent. Loving wife, mother and grandmother who will be sadly missed by all. Funeral Service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium Chapel at 3 pm on Thursday 2nd November. For full enquiries contact T.W. Boorman Funeral Services, 31 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8AA. tel: (01892) 541070.

HOUGHTON - Muriel on 4th October quietly in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, wife of the late Dan Houghton and mother of Martin. Murie will be sorely missed by family and friends alike. Private interment at Memorial Gardens, Stoke Poges. Any donations to charities for animals.

JOHNSON - On Tuesday October 24th peacefully at home, Gordon aged 84 years, formerly of Sheffield and London and latterly of Cornwall. Very dearly loved husband of Joan and a dear stepfather, grandfather, uncle and brother. Funeral Service 11 am Kernow Chapel, Penmount Crematorium, Monday October 30th. No flowers please but donations, if wished, for The National Trust Neptune Appeal for Cornwall c/o Funeral Directors, W.J. Beswetherick and Son Ltd., Central House, Fairmantle Street, Truro. (01872) 74021.

MACGEORGE - Marjory peacefully on 23rd October 1995. Much loved mother of David and Patrick, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Chichester Crematorium on Thursday 2nd November at 11 am. Flowers c/o L.F. Linnell & Son, North Street, Midhurst, Sussex GU29 9DG. tel: (01730) 813264.

MARGOTTINI - Yvonne Kamisen on Monday 23rd October aged 96, peacefully at her home in Rome.

MARTIN - William Desmond, formerly G.P. in Harrow, at the Clementine Churchill Hospital on October 24th 1995. Funeral at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, on Wednesday November 1st at 1.30 pm. No flowers but donations, if desired, to Chest, Heart and Stroke Association c/o James Peddle Ltd., 65 High Street, Rickmansworth, Herts. tel: (01923) 772013.

MENZIES - Gwendoline Beatrice, aged 80 years, peacefully at Norfolk and Norwich Hospital on October 23rd. Widow of Group Capt. Robert Menzies R.A.F. A beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich, Norfolk, on Wednesday November 1st at 2 pm. Family flowers only please, donations for R.A.F. Benevolent Fund c/o R.J. Bartram and Son Funeral Directors, Wymondham, Norfolk.

MURPHY - Brian, once of the European Commission, TUC, and friend to so many in the Labour movement and outside, died peacefully at St Joseph's Hospice on Thursday 26th October. He will be greatly missed by all those who loved him. Details of all arrangements from his son Nick, (0115) 981-4358.

O'DELL - Audrey O'Dell, M.B.E., M.A. (Oxon) née Wilson, widow of I.J. O'Dell M.A., sister of Mrs Eileen Pearce and Dr. Geoffrey Wilson of Eastbourne and much loved aunt to a large family circle, died very unexpectedly on 23rd October. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held on Tuesday November 7th at 2.30 pm at Barton Methodist Church, nr. Luton, Beds., to be followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations, if wished, to The Samaritans or The National Childrens Home. Further information from Neville Funeral Services, Luton (01582) 490006.

POBER - On October 13th 1995, at St Teresa's Home for the Elderly, Wimbledon, Dora Pober (née Clayton) in her 89th year. The funeral took place on October 20th at Putney Vale Crematorium.

PIKE - On 24th October 1995 suddenly, David F. Bayly Pike OBE aged 83 years, dearest husband of Felicia. Much loved by his step-family, his children Juliet, Morny, Christine and Tom, their late mother Jill and his many grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Hailsham on Friday 3rd November at 1.15 pm followed by private cremation. All are welcome at the Church. Strictly no flowers at his request but donations in his memory may be made to The Leukaemia Research Fund. Enquiries to Hailsham Funeral Services (01323) 440909.

PRICE - Michael Frederick, passed away on 21st October 1995 aged 62 years. Formerly of Gill and Duffus (Ghana) Limited. Beloved husband of Clara and dearly loved father of Nancy and Michael, he will be deeply missed by his family and friends. Requiem Mass at Holy Ghost Fathers, Bickley, Kent, on Wednesday 1st November at 12 noon. Family flowers only please, but donations in lieu to MINDCare, 20b Hayne Road, Beckenham, Kent, would be appreciated.

ROBINSON - On 19th October 1995 very peacefully in hospital, Agnes (Nicky) of Ewshot, Hampshire. Service at St Mary's Church, Ewshot, Tuesday 31st October 1 pm, followed by cremation at Aldershot at 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Ada Cole Memorial Stables c/o E. Finch & Sons, 123 High Street, Aldershot, Hants. GU11 1TT. tel: (01252) 22281.

SHERIDAN - Ursula, cherished wife of Ken, mother of Sybil and Judith, beloved granny of Jamie, Matthew, Benedict and Timothy, died peacefully after a sudden illness on Wednesday 25th October. All enquiries to Ashton Brookes Funeral Directors, tel: (0161) 928-7816.

SOGNO - John. Died peacefully at home on 22nd October after a long illness borne with great courage and dignity. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Monday 30th October 1995 at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished, to R.N.L.I. c/o Haine & Son Ltd., 19 South Street, Eastbourne, E. Sussex.

TAYLOR - Harold McCarter of New Zealand and Cambridge, peacefully on 23rd October 1995. Dearly loved husband of Judith and the late Joan. Loving father of Michael, John, Elizabeth and Judy and loving grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral and Thanksgiving Service on Monday 30th October 1995 at 2.15 pm at Clare College Chapel Cambridge, followed by private cremation at Cambridge Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations in his memory would be appreciated for The Salvation Army c/o T.L. Cobbold, 23 New Street, St Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs.

VON LEWINSKI - The Baroness Dagmar. On 23rd October 1995, in her 89th year, peacefully at Charing Cross Hospital, London. A very special lady, she will be mourned with love and sadness by her many friends in England and abroad. Cremation: Friday 3rd November 1995 at 12 noon at Mortlake Crematorium, Kew Meadow Path, Town Mead Road, Richmond, Surrey to be followed by a private interment of ashes at Wykeham, Yorkshire. Flowers and any enquiries to Messrs Braine and Gamble (tel: 0171 385 7625).

WORKMAN - On 26th October Gilbert William peacefully in his sleep in his 92nd year, husband of the late Kathleen, father of John, Anthea and Roger and grandfather of Alex, Alyson and Clare. Sadly missed. Cremation at the Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Friday 3rd November at 2.30 pm. No flowers please but if wished donations to S.V.A.B. c/o W.A. Truelove & Son Ltd., 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BATESON - A Memorial Service in Remembrance of Andrew James Bateson Q.C. will take place at the Temple Church, Inner Temple Lane, London EC4, on 16th November 1995 at 5 pm.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BROWN - Kathleen Mary Brown - died October 27th 1990. Sadly missed by her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PRESCOTT - Ethel Mary of 37 Eagle Court, Hermon Hill, Wanstead; died 2nd October 1995. Cremated at City of London Crematorium 20th October. Sincere thanks from Joseph and Catriona Grieve to friends and acquaintances for their kind support and expressions of sympathy throughout that time.

BIRTHDAYS

Please God that love will find a way,
And we will be a pair one day.
No answer is there on the wall,
Of my small room where all was all.
I search but cannot overcome,
That depth of feeling you have spun.
Glass slipper filler required for Lion's Mouth walls.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BARRINGER:WHARTON - On October 27th 1945 at St Philip's Church, West Bromwich, Arthur Thomas Barringer to Rebie Mary Wharton, now living in Reading.

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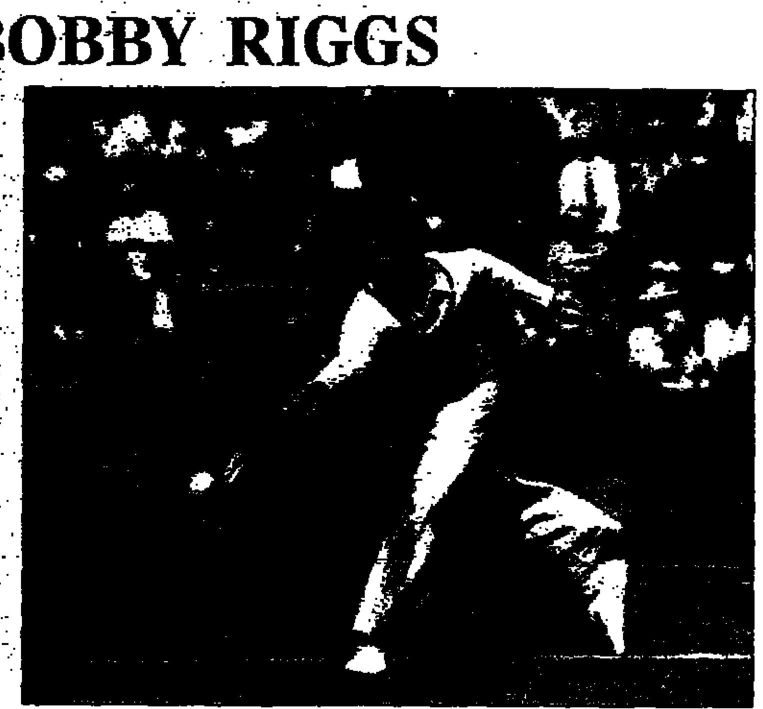
BOBBY RIGGS



Bobby Riggs, tennis player, died on October 25 aged 77. He was born in Los Angeles on February 25, 1918.

ALTHOUGH, by his own confession, the world's greatest chauvinist, the tennis player Bobby Riggs placed the ball in the feminist's court when he challenged Billie-Jean King to a battle of the sexes, and lost. With Riggs's defiant proclamations that it was man's superiority over woman in the field of sports which was at stake, the £40,000 winner-take-all purse was the least of the reasons that this contest was to muscle its way into sporting history.

The 1973 match between the 29-year-old Wimbledon women's singles champion and the 55-year-old Riggs, himself a former Wimbledon and US Open champion, was billed as "the battle between the lobber and the libber". It became the most publicised tennis match of the century, drawing a crowd of more than 30,000 to the Houston Astrodome in Texas, and a television audience estimated at 50 million.

"When I get through with Billie she might just go home and stay there and start raising a family," proclaimed the notoriously loudmouthed Riggs. "That's where women should be. Barefoot and pregnant. Then they can't get out."

Yet Riggs was the very antithesis of the archetypal bronzed macho man. Only 5ft 5ins tall, he was slight, bespectacled and occasionally to be seen sporting a toupee. In his youth he enjoyed the world's number one ranking and was known by the press as "The Retriever", for his extraordinary capacity to return even the most perplexing shots. A master of the lob, he was also fast and agile and would force his opponents into over offensive tactics and hence errors.

But perhaps his years as a bon vivant, dining at the most expensive restaurants, making passes at every willing girl in sight, had taken their tole on Riggs. Though he felt assured of his success, making his entrance for the match in a rickshaw drawn by six professional models, King, an ardent feminist, was not to be outdone. She arrived in a palanquin drawn by athletes and beat him in straight sets. Sororities the world over danced round the bonfires of their bras.

But Riggs gained a great deal of publicity and money from the match and these were as important to him as tennis. He earned himself a formidable reputation as a hustler, offering eccentric propositions to the unwary. He would accept their wagers, counting on the fact that they would assume certain handicaps were insurmountable. Riggs would play tennis with handcuffs on, or with a raincoat and galoshes and open umbrella. He even went so far as to play with a poodle lashed to each leg. Almost invariably he emerged a richer man.

Robert Larrimore Riggs was born in Los Angeles. His father was an evangelist who travelled the South spreading the word of the Lord. Riggs and his five elder brothers and sister had a God-fearing middle-class upbringing with regular church attendance, evening Bible readings and grace before every meal. But a competitive spirit was instilled in him young. "I was actually programmed to be a champion," he said. "My older brothers insisted I beat all the kids in the neighbourhood at anything I played. Sometimes I think I was born in a contest. I grew up believing I was going to be a champion. At something. I didn't know what."

At the age of 12 Riggs fleeced a friend at marbles and then traded back everything he had just won in return for his victim's tennis racket. Having got it, he said, he went straight down on his knees, not for any reason his father might have approved, but to win back all his marbles again. This was to be the start of a career which combined a cheeky manipulative hustling with a breathtaking sporting prowess.

Despite his small size and the fact that tennis was considered by his peers a sissy's game, Riggs began to play, barefoot at first because he had no shoes. It was not long before his talent was spotted by a university sports instructor.

From the age of 12 to 17 Riggs pursued the sport with obsessive dedication. "Nobody gets to the top who hasn't played at least ten years, 300 days a year, six hours a day," he later said.

In 1934 he won his first national junior's singles title, but refused to defend it the following year. He wanted only to compete against men.

In 1936 he won the national clay court championships in Chicago beating Frankie Parker, the then "boy wonder" of American tennis. But later that year, while playing on the circuit, he found himself involved for the first time in a highrolling game of craps and, after staying up all night, he was beaten at Forest Hills the next day. This mistake was to cost him the number two national ranking that year. He was placed only fourth.

For the next two years he was knocked out in the semi finals at Forest Hills, but by 1939 he seemed to have picked up again. He entered Wimbledon as something of a dark horse, but with characteristic nerve bet on himself with local bookmakers and went on to take first the mens singles final in five sets, and then the doubles and mixed doubles titles.

It was the only time he was to win at Wimbledon. During the Blitz, there was no tennis there, and afterwards Riggs turned professional, at a time when Wimbledon was only open to amateurs.

In 1941 Riggs won at Forest Hills before being drafted into the Navy. He hated his conscription because it interfered with his sport, although travelling in the Pacific and Australia he continued to play exhibition matches and take on anyone who was prepared to wager on the game. One young man played him, without realising who he was, and was relieved by Riggs of a vast sum of money, a car and a bungalow outside Honolulu. Riggs chivalrously restored almost everything later, keeping only $500 for himself — a fitting fee for teaching so valuable a lesson, he later declared.

The first professional world tennis championship was held in Los Angeles in December 1945. Riggs played Don Budge, then considered the most awesome player in the world. Budge lost the game because he hurt his arm, but a rematch was staged a month later. "No one could believe a little runt like me had a chance," said Riggs. "The last time had been a fluke." The night before the match Errol Flynn, one of his old gambling cronies, had wagered Riggs $2500 that he would lose. But on the day Riggs played a cunning game. Lining up his shots against a clock on the back wall, he lobbed high balls with immaculate precision to land a few inches from the baseline. Budge could not quite reach to return them with his devastatingly powerful smash and his renownedly heavy racket became a deadweight in his hand as Riggs forced him to play overarm for 90 per cent of the game. Even after the first set which was taken 6-4 by Budge, Riggs was confident, running up into the box seats between sets to place bets on himself. He kept on lobbing with breathtaking calculation and suddenly the match was all downhill for Budge. Though the press muttered about "cheap tricks", Riggs was acknowledged the best player in the world.

For the next two years Riggs went on playing, winning himself a following of devoted fans. On December 27, 1947, in what was to be his last big professional match, a crowd of 16,000 turned up despite the snow to watch him pit his wits against Jack Kramer whose powerful serve and volley had earned him the reputation as the hottest player on the circuit. Riggs returned to his hustler's techniques. Counting on the fact that Kramer saw him as a baseliner, he spent his time at the net, cruising up and down like a shark circling its prey. He won comfortably in four sets.

But by this time his heart was beginning to drop out of the game. In 1951 he retired from professional tennis altogether and turned his hand to golf with the same determination he had once applied to tennis. And his betting on the sport was equally outrageous.

Throughout the early fifties he played at all the clubs where the big action was — the Seminole in Miami Beach, La Gorse outside Fort Lauderdale. He was proud of having once "clobbered" Bing Crosby for a wad of money using a rake, a hoe and a baseball bat while Crosby was allowed to use his regular clubs. "I love millionaires," he said. "They're the salt of the earth. Wherever I go, they're lining up waiting for me."

In 1973 he returned briefly to high profile tennis when, in the wake of his customary disparaging remarks about women's tennis, he challenged Margaret Court to a match and conquered her 6-2, 6-1. "She did not merely lose, she disintegrated," Riggs bragged. Four months later Billie-Jean King threw down her gauntlet and battling off his drops, spins and lobs she pushed him into long rallies which wore him down. Thus she successfully defended the honour of her sport and her sex. But she was to remain a close friend of Riggs.

In 1988 Riggs was diagnosed with prostate cancer. In 1994 he formed the Bobby Riggs Tennis Museum Foundation, to promote the awareness and the prevention of this disease.

Riggs married and divorced twice. He is survived by his five children.

VIVECA LINDFORS

Viveca Lindfors, actress, died in Uppsala, Sweden, on October 25 aged 74. She was born there on December 29, 1920.

EVER since Greta Garbo arrived in Hollywood in the early 1920s, the American public had awaited the arrival of another great Swedish actress. Ingrid Bergman had settled in Hollywood in 1938, and Viveca Lindfors followed in 1946. Lindfors was an established theatre actress in her own country, but also a major film star to Scandinavian audiences. A tall brunette, with square shoulders and blue eyes, she was regarded as one of the most beautiful actresses Sweden had produced.

Her subsequent career was a curious one by Hollywood standards. Offered the opportunity to be turned into another screen siren, and cast opposite leading men like Ronald Reagan, Errol Flynn and James Stewart, she had made a very creditable return on the studio's investment by the early 1950s. Then suddenly, she turned her back on Hollywood (although not with the finality of Garbo) and returned to her roots on the stage. She spent the next forty years visiting Hollywood intermittently, when financial necessity decreed. But her real love was working on her own projects about Brecht and Strindberg.

Elsa Viveca Torstensdotter Lindfors was born in Uppsala in Sweden. There was no history of theatre in the family — her father published art books, and her mother was a painter — and both parents were startled when they heard that their daughter wanted to be an actress (although she had always danced). She made her name with the Royal Dramatic Theatre in Stockholm and three years later, in 1940, started to make films in Sweden. Even then she was an independent woman, and while pregnant with her daughter during the war, she flew to Italy to make a film.

After the war she was brought over to America by Warner Brothers, and in 1948 she made her Hollywood screen debut opposite Ronald Reagan in *Night Unto Night*. She said it was her favourite film to make, not surprisingly considering she was in love with the director, Don Siegel who became her third husband. There followed *Adventures of Don Juan* (1948) opposite Errol Flynn, *No Sad Songs for Me* (1950) with Margaret Sullavan, *Four in a Jeep* (1951) with Ralph Meeker, and the film noir *Dark City* (1950).

Then suddenly, in the early 1950s, Lindfors rebelled from typically romantic parts. She appeared as the cover story for *Life* magazine, wearing a black leotard, and told the interviewer that she was not at all pleased with the parts Hollywood had offered her. She felt, she said, as though she had made nothing of her talent.

Shortly after this she left for New York — thus breaking the contract with Warner's — and in 1955 made her Broadway debut in *Anastasia*, about a woman claiming to be the missing daughter of the last Tsar. Her acting was said by critics to have been "electrifying". To bring herself to the right peak of emotion on stage, she made herself dwell on painful memories of her brother, who had committed suicide some years earlier.

She married, as her last husband, the writer, producer and director George Tabori, and worked with him on the idea of a Brecht evening. This resulted in an anthology of material entitled *Brecht on Brecht*. It was the first real heavyweight project Lindfors had undertaken since leaving Sweden and she was pleased with the result. She also joined Lee Strasberg's Actors' Studio (along with Marilyn Monroe). The 1960s were spent touring with *Brecht on Brecht*, and accepting occasional parts in films: *The Story of Ruth* (1960) and *King of Kings* (1961). There were also plays by Shakespeare and Tennessee Williams.

Her relationship with Tabori was easily the longest of her four marriages, and provided her with a new intellectual confidence. But in 1971, that marriage too ended. The feminist movement, meanwhile, was in full swing in New York, and Lindfors became involved by compiling an anthology of poems, songs and fragments of plays. She called the show *I am a Woman*, and gave performances across America, and in Sweden and Canada.

She remained true to many of these feminist ideals for the rest of her life, although she never preached. For instance, unlike most actresses of her generation, she wore little make up and would never have dreamt of dying her hair. It turned a wonderful, lustrous silver over the years, and added distinction to her still remarkably beautiful, though now well-lined, face.

She never stopped working, if only because she was not practical with money, and always invested what she had back into the next project. *In Search of Strindberg*, which she had taken to Sweden, was her last show, and was a huge hit in Sweden. But she remained in demand in less highbrow productions in America. She received an Emmy for best actress in the television drama series, *Life Goes On*, in 1993, and last year could be seen opposite James Spader in a science fiction film, *Stargate*.

Viveca Lindfors was married four times. Her first husband was Henry Hasso, a cinematographer from Sweden; her second Folke Rogard, a Swedish lawyer; her third Don Siegel, the director; and her fourth George Tabori. All the marriages ended in divorce.

She is survived by a daughter from her second husband, the actress Lena Tabori, as well as a son from the first, and a son from the third marriage. Several of her grandchildren have followed her into showbusiness.

THE HON ANTHONY FINCH-KNIGHTLEY

The Hon Anthony Finch-Knightley, ICI agricultural representative and Conservative Party activist, died on October 15 aged 75. He was born on April 27, 1920.

ALTHOUGH Anthony Finch-Knightley spent much of his working life at ICI, he also devoted a good deal of time to local Conservative politics. Of the beneficiaries of his labours, the most famous was the present MP for Huntingdon, John Major. From 1957 Finch-Knightley had lived in Huntingdonshire, as the parliamentary division was then called, and had served in each of the constituency association's senior offices. When Major first appeared on the scene in the mid-1970s, Finch-Knightley was already prominent in local politics.

He was one of the first to spot the Londoner's potential, and perhaps he also recognised someone with whom he could watch cricket, as they did together several times over the years. It was Finch-Knightley who, as a member of the selection committee, proposed Major as a candidate when David (now Lord) Renton, the MP since 1945, decided in 1976 to stand down at the next general election. Inheriting one of the largest in-built Tory majorities and with his personal victory therefore never in doubt, Major was returned to Parliament in 1979 on the crest of Margaret Thatcher's wave.

Finch-Knightley's contribution was not to be underestimated: not only had he helped Renton to secure the Tory majority in half-a-dozen contests but, as constituency treasurer, he had been instrumental in founding the Huntingdon Conservative Club, which provided the social cement for continuing electoral success.

The Hon Anthony Heneage Finch-Knightley, known as "Ant", was the younger son of the 10th Earl of Aylesford, and spent his early childhood in south Essex where he had his first experience of a future Conservative Prime Minister, at the age of seven. It was not an altogether happy one. His father, who had not yet inherited the family estates at Packington, in Warwickshire, and in Scotland, was agent for the neighbouring Epping MP, Winston Churchill. When the great man came to visit, Finch-Knightley and his elder brother Ian, now the 11th earl, doused him — and his cigar — with a bucket of water, as a practical joke. His father was not amused.

Finch-Knightley was educated at Oundle School, after which he took a job at Woolworths. He was called up a few months before war broke out, and enlisted in the Black Watch as a private. He was soon commissioned, and after his brother joined him in the same battalion — although they were never allowed in the frontline at the same time — they served together in the campaigns from El Alamein to Italy. He was mentioned in dispatches.

After the war, Finch-Knightley returned to the family estate at Packington where he ran the Home Farm, and, as a fine archer, he joined the Woodmen of Arden. In 1948 he married Susan Palmer, the daughter of a major-general. Four years later, they moved to Islington, north London, and he took a job at the headquarters of ICI in Park Lane; and then, when ICI appointed him agricultural representative for Mid-Anglia, they moved to Capel St Mary in Suffolk.

As an ICI area "muck rep" for 20 years, until a series of heart attacks forced him to retire in the early 1970s, he not only got to know the farmers and landowners but consistently worsted the competition and achieved high sales targets. He was in his element in the country, and, off-duty was a fine shot and fisherman. Every season he visited Scotland with his brother. On one of their last holidays, and though by then so weakened that he had to be propped up on either side, he still managed to land a 10lb salmon with a trout rod.

But it is for his years in Brampton, from 1957, on the outskirts of Huntingdon, for which he will be primarily remembered, and not only for his work for the Conservatives. He attended the parish church of St Mary Magdalene as an old-fashioned member of the Church of England, but he accepted innovations of liturgy and continued to worship regularly; and he worked for a raft of charities. From his bed on the day before he died, he listened to the Prime Minister's speech at the Conservative conference in Blackpool. Having followed John Major's career in every detail since they first met, he pronounced himself well satisfied.

He is survived by his wife Susan, and two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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From Nicholas Herbert, Teheran, Oct. 26

With pageantry worthy of the world's most ancient monarchy, Muhammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, the King of Kings, the Light of the Aryans, crowned himself today in the Golestan Palace in Teheran.

Then, as muezzins called the faithful to prayer and 101-gun salutes rang out all over the land, the Shah, who waited so long for an heir, bestowed a crown upon the woman who gave him one. By his side sat the six-year-old boy upon whom those awesome titles will one day devolve, a symbol of continuity in a land where tradition and progress have been made to march hand in hand.

Crowns, sceptres, swords and maces, not to mention the priceless Peacock Throne, all glittering with diamonds, rubies, and emeralds, bore ample testimony to the past. Queen Farah, as the first woman ever to put on a crown in Iran's 2,500-year history, provided striking proof of present progress and future hopes . . .

The day began early for many of the privileged guests at the palace, but by the time the members of the Royal Family entered in procession, the long trains of the princesses swishing over the deep orange carpet, all were in their places.

Members of the Diplomatic Corps and their wives, officials of the Iranian court and government, resplendent in medals and court dress, and other dignitaries in long, brightly coloured dresses or white ties and tails, lined the mirrored walls of the hall. Some, led astray by western vogues, wore plastic badges with portraits of the Royal Family.

Into this formidable assembly, brilliantly lit by chandeliers and television lights, the young Crown Prince had to walk ahead of his parents and take his seat on the left of the throne. Escorted by officers with drawn swords, and mindful, perhaps of films he had been shown of Prince Charles at Queen Elizabeth's coronation in 1953, he strode manfully down the length of the chamber and clambered into his gilded chair.

The Queen and the Shah, similarly attended by chamberlains and ladies in waiting, followed at three-minute intervals . . Outside, trumpeters dressed in blue and orange sounded a fanfare and the Imam of Teheran, in black robes and turban, recited his blessing. Then, taking the Holy Koran from a cushion borne by a strapping private soldier, the Shah raised it to his lips.

Officers stepped forward with the richly jewelled imperial belt, a sword of equal magnificence, and a richly embroidered grey and red cape decorated with familiar traditional Iranian pattern. Finally, taking the gleaming crown and turning it briefly in his hands, the Shah placed it firmly on his head. Ancient drums and trumpets sounded outside as the King of Kings gazed proudly down from his throne.

Bearers now moved forward with a gold cushion, with was placed at the foot of the Peacock Throne, and the Queen's crown and train. She rose and knelt before her husband, who placed the crown on her upswept hair, paused briefly and offered her his hand to help her to her feet. The Queen then put on the superb dark green velvet cape with its 26ft train edged in white mink and moved gracefully back to her place.

There followed a number of speeches, and the orators struck a balance between former glories and future gains. The Imam spoke of the monarch's inspired dedication to social justice; Amir Abbas Hoveida, the Prime Minister offering the nation's congratulations, said the eyes of the people were glittering with happiness and their hearts were filled with exaltation when they contemplated the Shah's unremitting efforts on behalf of their prosperity.

THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27 1995

NEWS

Divorce reform bill shelved

■ *The Government bowed to pressure* from Conservative MPs and withdrew proposals that would have given unmarried women the same rights to stay in their male partner's home as those of a wife.

Faced with a certain revolt from Tories who said it would undermine marriage, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, agreed to the eleventh-hour shelving of the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill .... **Page 1**

Yeltsin returns to hospital

■ President Yeltsin was back in hospital after suffering an acute heart ailment for the second time in four months. In an attack that could cost the ailing Russian leader re-election in the coming year, the President was admitted to Moscow's Central Clinic after complaining of chest pains ...... **Pages 1, 15**

Heseltine ill

Michael Heseltine was said last night to be "feeling fine, sparkling even" after it emerged that he is to be admitted to hospital for a kidney stone operation .... **Page 1**

Cut off

The Consumers' Association has accused BT of being "trigger happy" about disconnecting households .... **Page 1**

Out of tune

Britain faces the *ultimate* indignity in next spring's Eurovision Song Contest of failing even to qualify.................. **Page 1**

Terrorists freed

Nearly 500 terrorist prisoners in Northern Ireland will be allowed early release under new laws to be rushed through the Commons over the next fortnight...... **Page 2**

Child B treatment

The experimental cancer treatment given privately to "Child B" is now being offered to other *children on the National Health* Service .... **Page 3**

Defiant Labour

Labour rejected calls to withdraw its candidate for Exeter who has admitted taking part in bombings in South Africa .... **Page 4**

50-hour week

Most white-collar staff work *more than 40 hours a week*, according to a survey. A quarter of the workers interviewed put in more than 50 hours .... **Page 6**

Drink problem 1

The governor of an open prison spent hundreds of pounds on equipment to test inmates for alcohol after some of them returned *"the worse for drink"* from temporary release .... **Page 8**

Drink problem 2

Liverpool City Council, which is considering cutting social services to pay off huge debts, is sending an environmental health officer to study alcohol abuse in Ukraine.................. **Page 9**

Quebec campaign

Jean Chretien, the Canadian Prime Minister, joins an historic rally against independence for Quebec in Montreal today after launching a fierce campaign to avert a crisis of unity ...... **Page 14**

Clinton search

Hillary Clinton's role in the search of Vincent Foster's office on the day after his death came under fresh scrutiny ...... **Page 14**

Dini survives

Lamberto DINI, Italy's Prime *Minister, beat off an attempt* to topple his Government after the hard-left Rifondazione Comunista withdrew support for a no-confidence motion.......... **Page 16**

Tamil slaughter

The Tamil Tigers, under siege *from the biggest army offensive* in 12 years of civil war, hacked 36 Sinhalese villagers to death in northern Sri Lanka......... **Page 17**

Your dinner's in the Stone Age

■ People should turn the clock back 15,000 years and eat a Stone Age diet if they want to stay healthy, according to a leading anthropologist. Paleolithic cuisine, with its emphasis on lean meat, uncultivated fruit and vegetables like nuts, berries and tubers, little or no cereal and no dairy foods, perfectly matched our metabolic requirements .... **Page 5**

GRAHAM MORRIS

Soweto cricket club being prepared for a match against England today — the first major game to be played in the township. Page 48

BUSINESS

Banking: Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, said that British banks "have become progressively less willing" to join in support operations that run into financial *difficulties* .... *Page 25*

British Coal: British Coal has sold CINVen, the £1 billion venture capital arm of the industry's pension fund, to a management buy-out team for a sum believed to be less than £5 million.................. **Page 25**

Budget: *Kenneth Clarke, the Chan*cellor of Exchequer, was warned by British business not to "play politics with the Budget" .... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 18.2 to 3519.6. Sterling was unchanged at 83.7 after a fall from $1.5795 to $1.5740 but a rise from DM2.2013 to DM2.2071 .... **Page 28**

SPORT

Golf: Only four players broke par in the first round of the Volvo Masters. Anders Forsbrand, with a 68, led Jose Coceres by one stroke and Barry Lane and Ian Woosnam by *two* .... **Page 48**

Cricket: The England bowler, Dev*on* Malcolm, has another role to fulfil, that of the successful black sportsman, in the match against an Invitation XI in Soweto..... **Page 48**

Football: Newcastle United, the *Premiership* leaders, have been drawn away to Liverpool in the fourth round of the Coca-Cola Cup .... **Page 48**

Rugby league: England have made one change to their starting line-up for the World Cup final against Australia. Barrie-Jon Mather replaces Nick Pinkney .... **Page 48**

Pop on Friday: David Sinclair on fine new albums by Pulp and the indestructible Meat Loaf: Caitlin Moran on the case for granting Xfm a national radio *licence* .... *Page 41*

Cyrano in India: At the National Theatre, the Tara Arts company has adapted Rostand's *Cyrano*, updating the action to 20th-century India .... **Page 39**

Greek romp: Scottish Opera's riot*ous new production of Offenbach's La Belle Hélène* is a great night out for all connoisseurs of high-class smut.................. **Page 40**

Rattle triumphant: Sir Simon Rattle brought his Beethoven cycle to a triumphant conclusion with startling accounts of the Eighth and Ninth Symphonies........... **Page 40**

Femme fatale: Isabel Fonseca is Martin Amis's girlfriend and it is for this reason that newspapers clamour to interview her about *Bury me Standing*, her book about *Eastern Europe* gypsies .... **Page 18**

Spiritual sphere: The Venerable George Austin has vowed to be "even more uninhibited". Ruth Gledhill meets the outspoken trad*itionalist ousted* from the General Synod .... **Page 19**

Single issue: *Girls* in the independent sector, where single-sex education for young women predominates, have forged ahead at A level. Gerard McCrum argues against co-education .... **Page 37**

On the line: Advances in the mobile phone industry, with advice for buyers .... **Pages 33-35**

While the war continues more and more Algerians are likely to be radicalised: the longer this goes on, the more likely it will become that an Iran-style government will come to power — *Wall Street Journal*

Treating Castro as an enemy only exaggerates his importance and delays the day when Cubans can enjoy the democratic government they deserve — *New York Times*

IN THE TIMES

■ **TRAVEL**
Win a £1,200 holiday in Barbados, in our Around the World in 80 Days competition

■ **BOOKS**
Neo-Gothic gore from *Tim Willocks; small* masterpieces of comedy from *Lynne Truss*

Preview: Max Miller went as far as he dared and then drew back: *Heroes of Comedy* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Terry Major-Ball's *Postcards to My Brother* was boring, says Lynne Truss.............. **Page 47**

Rational rationing

When the heart is scandalised, it is all the more important to keep one's head. The ethical issues raised by the Child B documentary are too important to be approached otherwise .... **Page 21**

Under the maple tree

Canada is open, tolerant, plural and prosperous. Lucien Bouchard, the leader of the Bloc Québécois, has *not demonstrated* how his Wonderland will be better **Page 21**

Food for Flintstones

The diet 15,000 years ago was, admittedly, somewhat monotonous, but at least it was fresh. And there was always the occasional excitement: *Stone Age cider or* a choice cut of mammoth liver .... **Page 21**

BERNARD LEVIN

I remember my first drive through the Berlin Wall. My driver looked over *his shoulder and tossed* a West German newspaper *onto* a rubbish bin. I asked what he was doing; he said somebody would pick it up. But isn't that dangerous, I said? He wound *down the window* and spat .... **Page 20**

PHILIP HOWARD

Jane Austen was no bluestocking or social failure. Her neighbour, Mary Russell Mitford, wrote in a letter: "Mamma says that our countrywoman Jane Austen was the prettiest, silliest, most affected, husband-hunting butterfly she ever remembers" .... **Page 20**

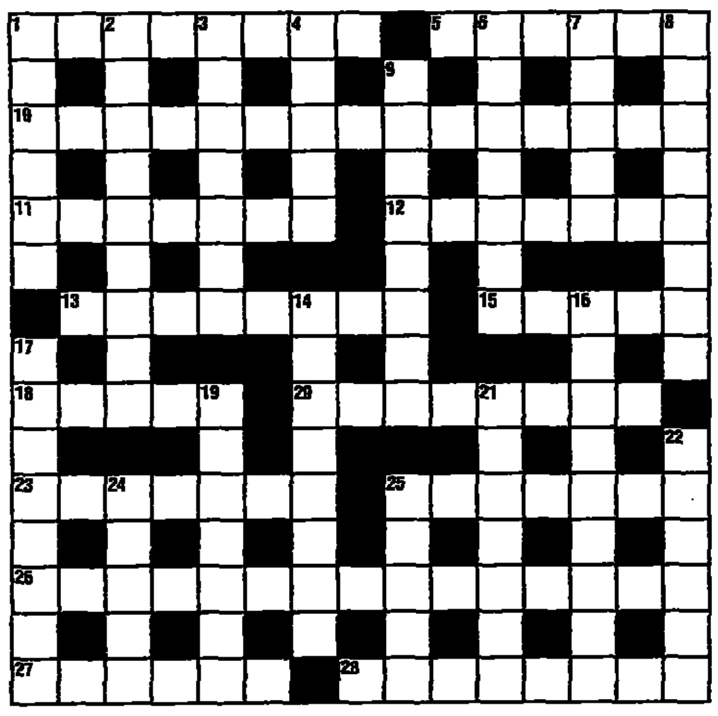
MAGNUS LINKLATER

Few who saw the smiling face of 11-year-old Jaymee Brown on television would condemn her parents for trying to raise money in any way they can to give her the cancer treatment *she needed*....... **Page 20**

Bobby Riggs, tennis player; **Viveca** ***Lindfors***, *actress*; ***the Hon Anthony Finch-Knightley***, agricultural representative.................. Page 23

Tax reforms; Europe; discord on the airwaves; Maxwell's death .... *Page 21*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,997



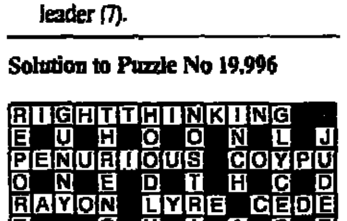
ACROSS

1 Literary gossip — the academic's curse (8).
5 Behaves badly, in a state with drink (4,2).
10 Misguidedly gave men control, following Liberal sort of administration (5,10).
11 Sunspot disturbance clears (7).
12 Prepared to be turned out (7).
13 Break traditions? Not on — and not with it! (8).
15 The detailed argument put one off one's stroke (5).
18 Taught about appropriate sound of old language (5).
20 Want to have lasting effect on financial centre (8).
23 Daily newspaper's leaders not in code (7).
25 Local question put to a Labour leader (7).
26 Supine monarch, after blaze, receiving little attention (2,3,4,6).
27 Saw part of essay ingeniously written (6).
28 New name, either outlandish or native (8).

DOWN

1 Nearly everyone has an objection (3,3).
2 Coming into office to get an increase (9).
3 Offer rejected when below reserve (4,3).
4 Low points for Titania and Oberon, for example (5).
6 Trick questions in competition (7).
7 Checks removing unknowns from operating procedures (5).
8 Take options on low lands (4,4).
9 Surgeon starts to take action about conclusion of bitter dispute (8).
14 European gold put on special trains (8).
16 Reserve notes on judgment, say (9).
17 Plausible but false promises to pay after commercial venture (8).
19 Where to put the plate in a restaurant? (7).
21 Priest accepts suitable collar (7).
22 Poor nun beginning to take a drink (6).
24 First appearance for actor required to take the lead (5).
25 Volunteers know what's needed (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,996



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RIGHTTHINKING
E U H O O N L J
PENURIOUS COYPU
O N E D T H C D
RAYON LYRE CEDE
T   O U I A R T
EARLDOM LONGISH
D O I     A N E
SYCOSIS TORPEDO
P H T T A C   B
EPEE WARD HEADS
E S C R P I C C
CATCH TROUSSEAU
H E O L L T R R
  REPREHENSIBLE
```

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Prestatyn, Clwyd, 18C (64F); **lowest day max:** Tulloch Bridge, Highland, 9C (48F); **highest rainfall:** Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway, 1.85in; **highest sunshine:** Stornoway, Hebrides, 6.5hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** most of the southern half of the country will start cloudy, perhaps with a little rain remaining along the south coast. Brighter conditions across Wales, central and northern Britain, will spread south during the morning.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a blustery day of sunny spells and showers, with the showers being heaviest in the west and being more isolated in the east.

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England:** cloud and rain clearing, sunny spells developing. Maximum temperature 16C (61F). Wind moderate southwesterly.

☐ **E Anglia, Midlands, E England, S Wales, Central N England:** mainly dry with sunny spells developing. Maximum temperature 15C (59F). Wind moderate westerly.

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen:** mostly dry with good sunny spells. Maximum temperature 14C (57F). Wind moderate westerly.

☐ **Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** sunny spells and showers. Maximum temperature 13C (55F). Wind moderate to fresh westerly.

☐ **Outlook for the weekend:** showers continuing in the north, dry with sunny spells elsewhere.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

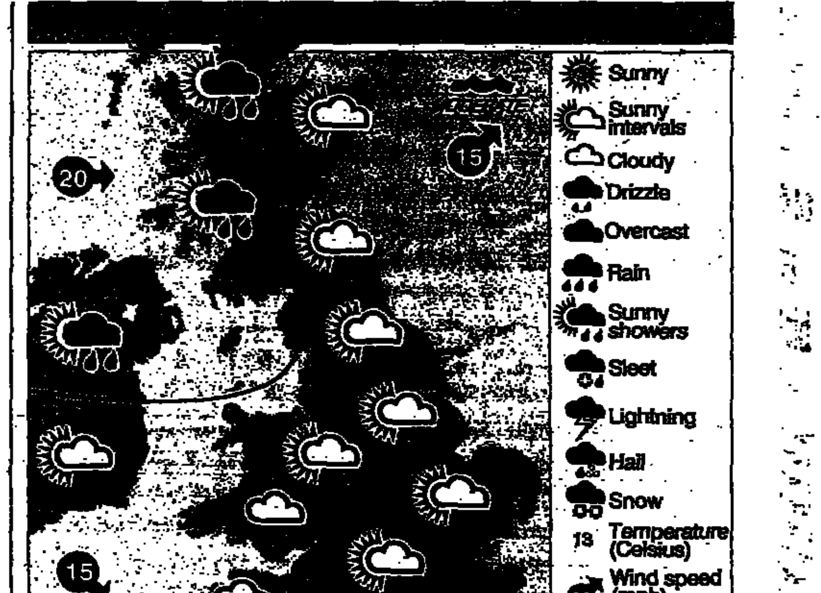
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	X					*Littlehmptn*	-	-	17	63	du
Anglesey	0.3	0.06	16	61	c	Liverpool	2.0	-	16	61	b
Aspatria	2.4	0.43	15	59	r	London	-	-	17	63	c
Aviemore	0.1	0.57	10	50	r	Lowestoft	-	0.03	15	59	f
Belfast	-	1.11	10	50	r	*Manchester*	2.0	-	15	59	b
Birmingham	-	0.04	15	59	sh	Margate	-	0.01	17	63	s
Bognor R	-	-	17	63	du	Minehead	0.2	0.22	15	59	r
Bournem'th	X					Morecambe	0.5	0.03	15	59	du
Bristol	-	0.38	16	61	r	Newcastle	X				
Buxton	-	-	13	55	c	Newquay	X				
Cardiff	0.1	0.37	15	59	r	Norwich	0.4	0.01	16	61	r
Clacton	-	0.06	X	X	c	Nottingham	X				
Cleethorpes	X					Oxford	-	0.18	15	59	r
Colwyn Bay	X					Penzance	X	0.45	15	59	r
Cromer	-	0.01	15	59	sh	Plymouth	X				
Doncaster	X					Poole	-	0.08	17	63	r
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	-	18	64	b
Eastbourne	-	0.08	17	63	d	*Ross-o-wye*	0.5	0.11	16	61	r
Edinburgh	-	0.87	14	57	r	Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	-	1.85	12	54	r	Salcombe	-	0.53	16	61	r
Exmouth	-	0.59	15	59	r	Sandown	-	0.04	17	63	r
Falmouth	0.8	0.29	15	59	r	*Saunton Snd*	0.3	0.30	16	61	r
Fishguard	X					Scarboro'	4.3	-	14	57	b
Folkestone	-	0.03	16	61	r	Scilly Isles	X				
Glasgow	-	1.63	10	50	r	Shrewsbury	X				
Guernsey	X					Skegness	X				
Hastings	-	0.03	16	61	r	Southend	-	0.03	16	61	r
Hayling I	-	0.02	17	63	r	Southport	0.1	-	16	61	b
Herne Bay	-	-	16	61	du	Southsea	-	0.08	17	63	sh
Hove	-	-	17	63	du	Stornoway	6.5	0.17	12	54	sh
Hunstanton	-	0.04	15	59	r	Swanage	-	0.08	17	63	d
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	-	0.66	16	61	r
Isle of Man	0.4	0.02	16	61	c	Tenby	2.4	0.05	16	61	r
Jersey	0.2	0.06	17	63	r	Tiree	1.4	0.71	12	54	r
Kinloss	0.1	0.17	11	52	c	Torquay	-	0.56	16	61	r
Leeds	3.5	-	17	63	b	Tynemouth	0.8	-	15	59	c
Lerwick	5.3	0.64	11	52	sh	Ventnor	-	0.02	16	61	d
Leuchars	0.1	0.94	11	52	r	Weymouth	-	0.05	17	63	r

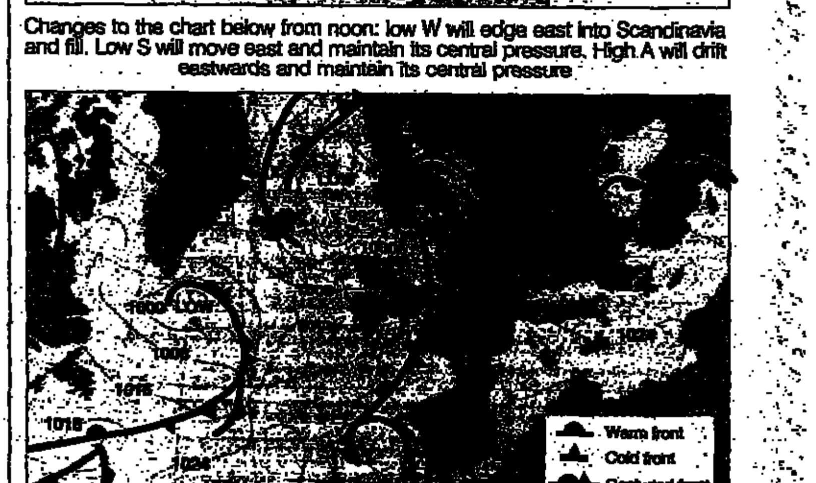
ABROAD

	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	20	68	s	Corfu	19	66	s	Madrid	21	70	s	Rome	20	68	s
Akrotiri	29	84	s	C'phagn	13	55	f	Majorca	24	75	f	S Frisco	16	61	f
Alex'dria	26	79	c	Dublin	16	61	c	Malaga	23	73	c	S Paulo	X		
Algiers	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	20	68	f	Malta	21	70	f	Salzburg	18	64	s
Amst'dm	15	59	s	Faro	25	77	s	Melb'rne	15	59	f	Santiago	20	68	f
Athens	20	68	f	Florence	17	63	s	Mexico C	19	66	f	Seoul	20	68	s
B Aires	19	66	f	Frankfurt	15	59	s	Milan	13	55	s	Sing'por	33	91	f
Bahrain	X			Funchal	23	73	s	Montreal	11	52	X	St'kholm	11	52	f
Bangkok	31	88	s	Geneva	12	54	c	Moscow	9	48	s	Strasb'rg	13	55	f
Barbados	X			Gibraltar	21	70	c	Munich	18	64	s	Sydney	18	64	f
Barcelona	22	72	f	Helsinki	12	54	s	N Delhi	29	84	s	Tangier	X		
Beirut	30	86	f	Hong K	26	79	s	N York	17	63	s	Tel Aviv	36	97	s
Belgrade	11	52	f	Innsbrck	15	59	s	Nairobi	24	75	s	Tenerife	26	79	s
Berlin	13	55	s	Istanbul	22	72	f	Naples	20	68	c	Tokyo	22	72	s
Bermuda	25	77	f	Jeddah	30	86	s	Nice	20	68	f	Toronto	8	46	c
Biarritz	26	79	f	*Jo'burg*	X			Oslo	13	55	c	Tunis	23	73	s
Borde'x	23	73	s	Karachi	38	100	s	Paris	17	63	s	Valencia	22	72	f
Brussels	16	61	r	L Angels	22	72	s	Peking	21	70	s	Vanc'ver	9	48	r
Budapest	13	55	s	L Palmas	27	81	s	Perth	24	75	s	Venice	18	64	s
Cairo	32	90	s	*Le Touqt*	16	61	f	Prague	14	57	s	Vienna	13	55	s
Cape Tn	17	63	f	Lisbon	21	70	d	Reykjavik	-1	30	sn	Warsaw	13	55	c
Ch'church	X			Locarno	16	61	s	Rhodes	22	72	s	Wash'ton	15	59	f
Chicago	14	57	s	Luxembg	13	55	c	Rio de J	29	84	f	Wel'ngton	X		
Cologne	17	63	f	Luxor	36	97	s	Riyadh	35	95	s	Zurich	12	54	s

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: low W will edge east into Scandinavia and fill. Low S will move east and maintain its central pressure. High A will drift eastwards and maintain its central pressure



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3:33	7.19	3:52	7.23	Leith	4:13	5.95	4:35	5.77
Aberdeen	2:57	4.47	3:18	4.38	Liverpool	0:36	9.92	0:59	9.78
Avonmouth	8:55	13.60	9:18	13.41	Lowestoft	11:15	2.72	11:31	2.60
Belfast	0:21	3.58	0:39	3.49	Margate	1:29	4.91	1:53	4.95
Cardiff	8:48	12.17	9:08	11.93	Milford Haven	7:52	7.30	8:14	7.13
Devonport	7:35	5.59	7:59	5.45	Newquay	6:40	7.08	7:03	6.98
Dover	0:15	6.89	0:36	6.89	Oban	7:13	4.04	7:29	3.92
Dublin	0:59	4.30	1:17	4.29	Penzance	6:17	6.58	6:38	5.41
Falmouth	6:35	5.29	7:00	5.22	Portland	8:50	2.18	8:52	2.02
Glasgow	11:48	3.88	2:58	4.59	Portsmouth	0:48	4.86	1:10	4.79
Harwich	1:21	4.15	1:40	4.21	Shoreham	0:36	6.49	0:57	6.44
Holyhead	12:00	5.81	-	-	Southampton	0:08	4.72	0:27	4.75
Hull	7:34	7.73	8:14	7.57	Swansea	8:00	9.82	8:22	9.87
Ilfracombe	7:37	9.69	7:58	9.50	Tees	5:16	5.53	5:37	5.46
King's Lynn	7:53	7.29	8:15	7.19	W'ton-on-Nze	1:14	4.61	1:36	4.69

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Sun rises: 6.44 am
Sun sets: 4.44 pm
Moon sets 7.25 pm
Moon rises 10.28 am
First quarter October 30

London 4.44 pm to 6.46 am
Bristol 4.54 pm to 6.56 am
Edinburgh 4.45 pm to 7.10 am
Manchester 4.48 pm to 6.59 am
Penzance 5.09 pm to 7.05 am

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هكذا من الأصل

MOBILE PHONES 32-35

The little wonder that will soon link up the world

ARTS 39-41

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Christie quick to make his mark on literary track

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27 1995

Banks would put their investors first, says George

UK banks unwilling to join 'lifeboats'

By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent

EDDIE GEORGE, Governor of the Bank of England, warned the financial community that UK banks "have become progressively less willing" to join in support operations for banks that run into financial difficulties.

He said banks would formerly participate on the grounds that it was in the general public interest, but they are less willing now "as the degree of competition between them and accountability to shareholders have increased".

Mr George was speaking yesterday to the Japanese Federation of Bankers' Associations in Tokyo on the subject of banking supervision.

His comments come only eight months after the collapse of Barings, the merchant bank, when attempts by the Bank to save it failed.

The Bank was criticised for what was seen by MPs and other observers for its failure to save Barings, Britain's oldest merchant bank which collapsed in February. Twelve banks had agreed to a support operation, but the deal failed because they were unable to quantify the amount of losses.

Mr George said yesterday that while UK banks participated "very substantially" in the so-called lifeboat operation that followed the 1973 secondary banking crisis, they were reluctant to be drawn into the support extended in 1991 and 1992 that followed the collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

He said that this did not mean that banks would decline to participate "if it could be demonstrated to them that participation would be in their self-interest".

One banker said the comments were surprising since Andrew Buxton, chairman of Barclays, had attempted to provide support, but the attempt foundered because "the end positions were unknowable at the time".

Mr George had been invited to speak to the federation about the British experience of maintaining financial stability. The Japanese Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Japan have been attempting to change the banking culture in Japan. Banks there are burdened with an estimated Y50,000 billion (£312 billion) of total bad debts.

A succession of Japanese banking failures, combined with the expectation of banks and their industrial and personal customers that banks will be rescued whatever the cause or implications of a collapse, has prompted the MoF to signal that in future it would be prepared to let banks fail.

Mr George said the Bank of England regarded the possibility of individual bank failure "as an essential discipline on the banking system".

The potential for systemic disturbance through the failure of banks had increased with the evolution of the financial system, he said, adding that "we are progressively developing co-operative arrangements with other financial regulators both at home and in the UK" to take account of the changing environment.

The Bank's deposit protection arrangements, to help small depositors, have been deliberately limited. "Otherwise, if depositors were relieved of all responsibility, deposits would simply flow to the highest bidder regardless of risk, which would undermine market disciplines and greatly increase the dangers of instability."

Mr George also said that last resort assistance should only be made available to prevent the emergence of a systemic problem, not to prop up an individual bank.

Last month, Yoshimasa Nishimura, finance ministry official in charge of banking supervision, said the central bank had been criticised for protecting banks too much.

Pennington, page 27
George speech, page 29

Moores to discuss £1.2bn bid

By Sarah Bagnall

LITTLEWOODS' board committee met yesterday to discuss the options open to the retailing and football pools concern after a possible £1.2 billion offer for the company emerged.

The next step is for the committee, which includes several shareholders, to put a proposal to the 32 members of the Moores family who own the company.

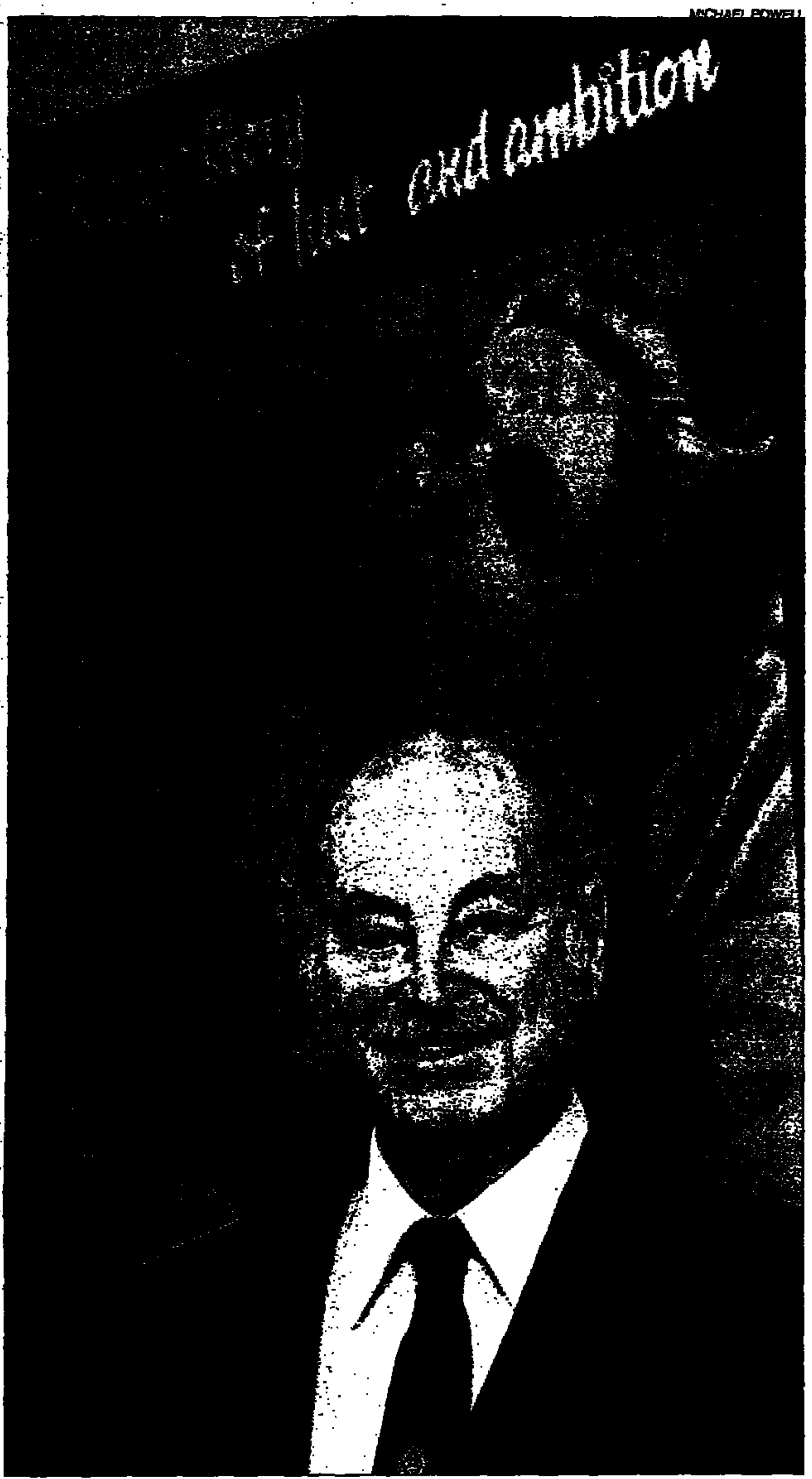
Dawnay Day, the investment bank, yesterday confirmed that Barry Dale, a former chief executive of the company, had formed a consortium that was interested in acquiring Littlewoods' entire ordinary and preferred share capital.

Under Littlewoods rules, a shareholder can only sell shares to an outsider with the backing of 75 per cent.

Mr Dale was fired in March for alleged breach of fiduciary duty. He is suing the company for compensation of at least £1.4 million for wrongful dismissal. His financial backers include Prudential, Electra, Candover Investments and Legal & General.

House divided, page 29

MICHAEL POWELL



In the frame: Sir John Woolf, British & American Film Holdings chairman, reported a rise in half-year pre-tax profits from £675,000 to £776,000 and a dividend of 5.5p

British Coal sells pension fund unit to management

By Robert Miller

BRITISH COAL has sold CINVen, the £1 billion venture capital arm of the industry's pension fund, to a management buyout team for a sum believed to be less than £5 million.

British Coal refused to comment on the price last night or how many companies were on the final shortlist. The state-owned British Coal imposed a similar gag on the new owners of CINVen and the teams of legal advisers and merchant banks involved in the sale process.

A spokesman for British Coal said: "We have no obligation to disclose the price but the sales process was openly conducted and the assets disposed on the best available terms."

The 13 directors involved in yesterday's buyout have put up the necessary equity capital, with long-term financial backing being provided by Bank of Scotland. John Brown, deputy managing director of CINVen, said: "We have each put up significant sums but we will still be able to sleep at night."

CINVen was part of CINMan, the fund management company for British Coal's £16 billion pension funds — the British Coal staff scheme and the Mineworkers Pension Scheme, on which up to 500,000 people have a claim.

The sales process for CINMan has reached an "advanced stage", with a shortlist of prospective buyers conducting due diligence on the business. The purchasers, in turn, are being scrutinised by Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank advising British Coal. The sale is expected to be completed before Christmas.

In addition to the money invested in CINVen by the Coal schemes, the venture capital company also looks after funds from the Railways Pension Schemes, Barclays Bank Pension Fund and Royal Life Insurance.

In order to advance the business and generate further income, the management team will need to attract additional funds to invest in the corporate stars of tomorrow. The main investments made by CINVen this year have included the £181 million Automotive Products deal at one end of the spectrum and the £13 million Corgi Classics at the other.

In April, the executives of CINVen, Britain's second largest venture capital group after 3i, warned British Coal and Samuel Montagu that if the company were not allowed to retain its independence the management would defect. Firm offers for CINVen were invited in August, with JO Hambro Magan and Cazenove & Co acting as corporate finance advisers to the buyout team.

Neil Clarke, chairman of British Coal, said: "We are very pleased to have concluded this sale to the management team in a way which not only satisfies British Coal's requirement to obtain best available terms, but also achieves the primary objective of all CINVen's customers of ensuring continuity of the high quality investment service which they enjoy at present."

Paul Trickett, speaking on behalf of the British Coal Pension Schemes, said: "The sale to the management team fully achieves these objectives for the benefit of some 500,000 current and deferred pensioners."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3519.6	(-18.2)
Yield	4.02%	
FT-SE A All share	1730.57	(-8.78)
Nikkei	17726.68	(-244.13)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4732.00	(-21.68)*
S&P Composite	580.05	(-2.42)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¾%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	107⅛*	(107 19/32)
Yield	6.33%*	(6.32%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	6¾%	(6¾%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	106 7/32	(106 1/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5740*	(1.5795)
London:		
$	1.5783	(1.5791)
DM	2.2003	(2.2027)
FFr	7.7500	(7.7470)
SFr	1.7871	(1.8028)
Yen	160.23	(160.05)
£ Index	83.7	(83.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4028*	(1.3920)
FFr	4.9255*	(4.9005)
SFr	1.1395*	(1.3920)
Yen	101.80*	(101.17)
$ Index	93.2	(92.9)

Tokyo close Yen 101.35

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jan)	$16.15	($15.90)

GOLD

London close	$383.05	($382.95)

* *denotes midday trading price*

Ethnic boost

British business signed a pledge yesterday to counter racial prejudice and bring jobs and prosperity to ethnic minority communities. The 18 household name companies involved are the trailblazers of a national Race for Opportunity Campaign. **Page 26**

ICI blow

Shares in ICI fell sharply after the chemicals giant reported weaker volumes and raised fears over destocking. Turnover improved 12 per cent, but the rise was fuelled by price increases and acquisitions. **Page 27**

CBI tells Chancellor to avoid 'political' Budget

By Philip Bassett, industrial editor

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, was warned by British business last night not to "play politics with the Budget".

Adair Turner, the CBI's Director-General, told business leaders in the South of England that the Chancellor should not put at risk the stability of the UK economy by introducing major tax cuts for political purposes.

Speaking at the CBI's southern region annual dinner, Mr Turner emphasised the need to maintain a stable economic course. While there might be scope for some tax cuts to boost consumer confidence, any reductions in taxation should only occur if "credible" reductions in public spending could be achieved to fund them.

He said: "A Budget which for political purposes takes risks with borrowing and thus interest rates, or which cuts key investment to pay for major tax reductions, would be a mistake and would risk throwing away the benefits of the sound policies pursued over the last three years." The warning from the CBI is the furthest business has gone in urging the Government to maintain its current economic policies rather than be tempted by short-term political considerations.

On the basis of indications from within Whitehall, business leaders are concerned that next month's Budget will be largely, if not wholly, political in nature, and that hard-won economic gains may be thrown away in the quest for electoral success.

Mr Turner stressed in particular the need to protect public capital expenditure from any cuts in spending.

He emphasised the importance of Government infrastructure spending to industries such as construction. He insisted that, while the present economic slowdown was worrying, it was not a big cause for concern.

"The developments are concerning but we should not discount the possibility, and indeed probability, that it will slowly self-correct."

Ford workers reject 3%

LEADERS of 22,390 Ford manual workers last night rejected a 3 per cent pay offer as "inadequate and unrealistic". They vowed to step up their campaign for a 10 per cent rise and a two-hour cut in the working week, to 37 hours, unless an acceptable offer is made at talks on November 15 (Ross Tieman writes).

Jimmy Airlie, negotiator for the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, said: "After an average productivity increase of 90 per cent over the last 10 years, the 3 per cent offer is an insult to Ford workers."

A Ford spokesman said: "We believe we have made a fair offer."

Pennington, page 27

'Collusion' finale to Guinness appeal

By Melvyn Marckus
City editor

A BLISTERING attack on the Department of Trade and Industry, DPP officers and the DTI inspectors by Anthony Scrivener, QC, representing Jack Lyons, the financier, marked the end of the Guinness appeal proceedings at the Royal Courts of Justice yesterday.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice who presided over the eight-day hearing, said: "It will come as no surprise to anyone that the court will take a little time to consider its decision." Judgment was reserved. No date was set for the court's ruling.

Ernest Saunders, former chairman of Guinness, Gerald Ronson, the Heron property magnate, Anthony Parnes, a former stockbroker, and Mr Lyons are all appealing against their convictions in 1990 arising from their respective roles in Guinness's £2.7 billion takeover battle for control of Distillers, the Johnny Walker Scotch whisky combine. Mr Saunders and Mr Parnes were both in court.

Earlier, Mr Scrivener bluntly informed the court that the police investigation into the Guinness affair was held back to allow the DTI investigation to proceed "as a result of collusion between DTI and DPP officers and inspectors".

To illustrate why the police, who are obliged to caution witnesses in contrast to DTI inspectors, were held back, Mr Scrivener quoted 21 extracts from documents obtained from the Crown.

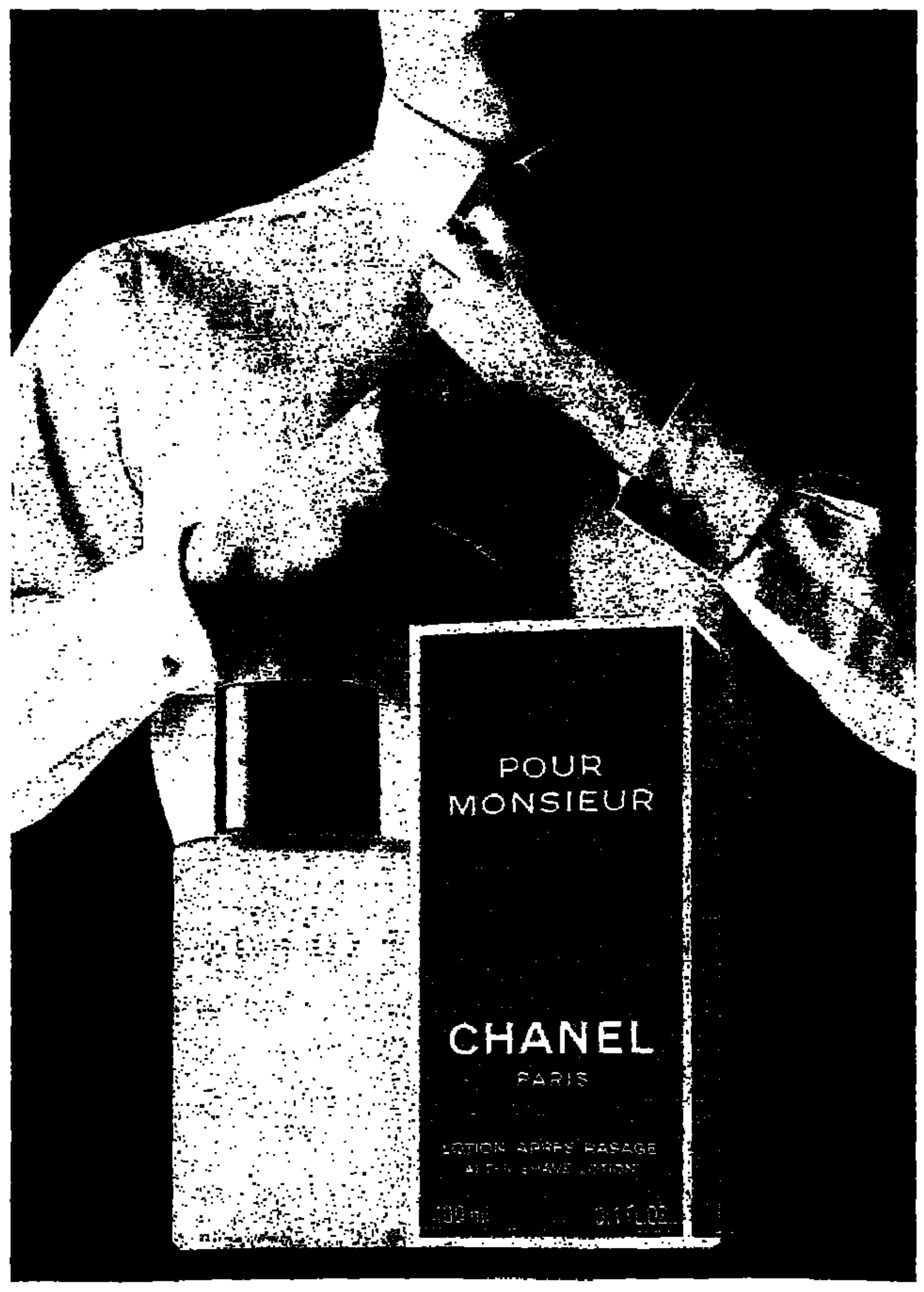
Referring to notes of a meeting between representatives of the DTI, the CPS and counsel on February 25, 1987 he read out the following passages:

☐ "Because the powers of the inspectors are greater than the police, they can require a witness to answer questions regardless of whether such answers would be self-incriminating."

☐ "The possibility of obtaining useful evidence from the main potential defendants in a police interview is minimal."

To illustrate the alleged collusion Mr Scrivener read out a further 14 extracts.

Mr Scrivener told the court: "It was not for the DTI let alone the inspectors to dictate to the DPP when to commence an investigation."



POUR MONSIEUR
ELEGANCE IS TIMELESS
CHANEL

Hasbro takes stake in Bluebird

By Philip Pangalos

HASBRO, the US toys company whose products include the Sindy doll and Action Man, has emerged as a 6.7 per cent shareholder in Bluebird Toys, the UK toys group whose products range from Polly Pocket miniature dolls to Mighty Max monsters.

The move prompted takeover speculation, fuelled by the fact that Chris Burgin, Bluebird's new chief executive, has previously spent 18 years with Hasbro. Last week, Bluebird signed a product development and marketing deal with the Walt Disney Company.

Hasbro played down the rumours, insisting that the stake is for investment purposes only and is a result of the conversion of Bluebird unsecured loan stock, acquired in March for investment purposes, into ordinary shares. Hasbro said it has "no present intention of making an offer" for Bluebird.

Bluebird shares, which surged on the back of the key Walt Disney deal, firmed 3p to 360p, capitalising the group at £165.4 million.

Tempus, page 28

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.04
Austria Sch	16.49	14.99
Belgium Fr	48.24	43.94
Canada $	2.258	2.098
Cyprus Cyp£	0.745	0.690
Denmark Kr	9.16	8.36
Finland Mkk	7.20	6.55
France Fr	8.15	7.50
Germany Dm	2.35	2.14
Greece Dr	380.00	355.00
Hong Kong $	12.83	11.83
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1841	4.5341
Italy Lira	*2655.00*	*2500.00*
Japan Yen	174.00	158.00
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.618	2.388
New Zealand $	2.54	2.32
Norway Kr	10.33	9.53
Portugal Esc	243.50	225.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.41
Spain Pta	199.00	186.00
Sweden Kr	11.08	10.28
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	75960.0
USA $	1.674	1.544

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

DES JENSON

Bill Morris, head of the T&G union, which has pledged to combat racial prejudice, with Donna Harris, a tailoring trainee

Corporate Britain to tap minorities' talents

By Ian Murray, Community Correspondent

BRITISH business signed a pledge yesterday to counter racial prejudice and bring jobs and prosperity to ethnic minority communities.

The 18 companies involved initially are the trailblazers of a national Race for Opportunity Campaign designed to exploit the fastest-growing sector of the population's potential.

"We can't ignore the talent around us if we want to remain competitive in the modern world," said Robert Ayling, managing director of British Airways. "We are at the crossroads. Either we make use of the ability that is available or we end up with a divisive and divided national economy which is unable to compete."

Ethnic minorities account for 5 per cent of the British population. Nearly half were born here and 80 per cent are under 25. Their number will almost double over the next 30 years to five million, and within two decades one person in five at work will come from an ethnic minority.

In its latest recruitment drive for trainee pilots, BA went out of its way to make ethnic minority groups aware that it was possible for them to be considered. As a result, many came forward and 10 per cent of the 150 cadets chosen from 15,000 applicants were from these groups.

"You have to go out and make these things happen," he said. "There has to be commitment from the top and an awareness that you need to employ the best people if your business is going to succeed. These are young, vital people who on the whole are better qualified than their counterparts in the white community.

"Two thirds of those in the 16-19 age group remain in school compared with only half of the white community. Yet, only a third of those from minority groups who complete a youth training scheme get a job, while half of the whites on these courses get employed when they finish."

Herman Ouseley, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, hoped that the big business influence would change attitudes. "In spite of wonderful intentions in the past, there is still a gulf between those who have and those who have not," he said. "There is nobody better at making these arguments than the business community."

The first 18 to join the campaign include five banks, the BBC, British Gas, BT, Boots, McDonald's, Grand Metropolitan, Littlewoods, W H Smith, Northern Foods and the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The campaign will begin with pilot projects in London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Bristol and Nottingham. Companies will be asked to commit themselves to an action plan to employ, market and purchase from minority groups, while undertaking to involve themselves in the communities.

Water companies to merge

By Graham Searjeant

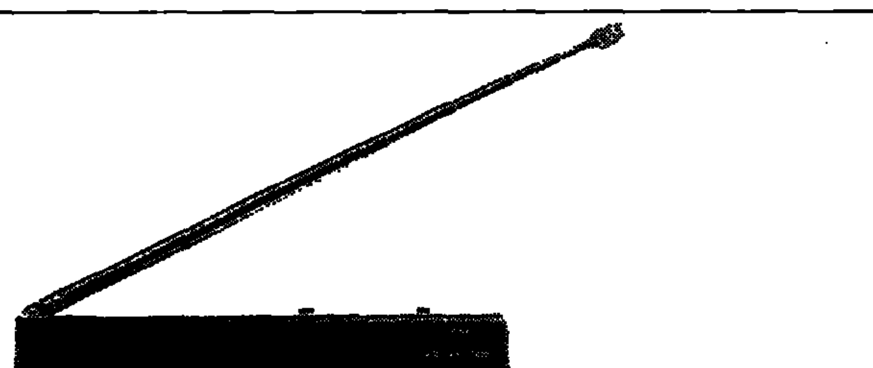
TWO of the dwindling band of independent water supply companies are to merge.

East Surrey Holdings has made an agreed £40 million share-for-share offer for Cheam Holdings, which owns Sutton Water. The two companies, which operate to the south-east of London, have long-standing links via shareholdings and co-operation and will be worth about £100 million combined.

Ofwat, the industry's regulator, has accepted the merger on the understanding that the combined group will, by 1999, cut charges by 3.5 per cent below the limits set last year. The companies have told Ofwat they will aim to cut prices by 5 per cent. Sutton Water has assets of less than £30 million, so the merger need not automatically be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

East Surrey will raise its interim dividend 24 per cent to 6.2p per share. Cheam's rises 16 per cent to 6.5p.

Pennington, page 27



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Delay for MPs' report on City watchdogs

Publication of a two-year inquiry by the powerful Commons Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee of MPs, into the way the financial services regulators police the City and protect investors, has been put back a week to November 7.

Evidence has been taken from the Stock Exchange, the Securities and Investments Board and the Bank of England. The Commons report is expected to fall short of recommending a single streamlined regulator.

The select committee is to continue its investigation into the collapse of Barings bank, and the Bank of England's role in regulating banks in general. The MPs are also looking at the Lloyd's insurance market and derivatives.

Eurovein loss

Eurovein, the specialist engineering company whose chairman is Sir James McKinnon, the former gas industry regulator, reported a pre-tax loss of £1.18 million for the year to end-July against a profit last year of £1.07 million. Losses were 9.2p a share (14.6p earnings). There is no final dividend, leaving the total at 0.51p (nil).

£74m DFS sale

Graham Kirkham, founder and chairman of DFS, has netted £74 million from the sale of a large part of his holding in the furniture group floated two years ago. Mr Kirkham with his wife, daughter and son, have reduced their holding from 51 per cent to 30 per cent by selling 22.6 million shares at 328p each. The shares rose 11p to 346p.

Philips slips

Philips, the Dutch electronics group, badly disappointed the market by raising its net profit by only 84 million guilders to 539 million guilders (£226 million) in the third quarter. The Amsterdam share price was marked down almost 10 per cent. The first nine months' normalised net profit was 1.67 billion guilders, 50 per cent up, reflecting demand for microchips.

US bank plea

First Interstate, the Californian bank that is the target of a $9.6 billion hostile takeover bid by Wells Fargo, has invited two rival banks, Banc One and Norwest, to examine its books in the hope of finding a white knight. The move indicates that First Interstate has given up hope of remaining independent

IPD CONFERENCE, HARROGATE

Monks attacks loss of trust and security

JOB insecurity is bad for business as well as being bad for workers and Britain generally, John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, told the UK's personnel managers yesterday.

His comments came against the background of new research suggesting that greater job insecurity is sharply reducing trust and loyalty in companies and that longer working hours stemming from high unemployment are the new British disease.

In a keynote speech to the annual conference of the Institute of Personnel and Development in Harrogate, Mr Monks said that if Britain is to meet the challenge of increasing international competition, then it has to bring into line the rhetoric of the new world of work with the reality of modern employment.

He said: "There must be a move towards long-term, secure employment relationships based on trust. Employment insecurity is bad for workers, bad for business and bad for society. Competitiveness can best be achieved by investing in skills and training."

He said the TUC is to try to forward the arguments over corporate governance raised by the Cadbury report and the Greenbury inquiry into the controversy over boardroom pay, beyond consideration of internal company controls and accountability.

He said: "One of the reasons why British companies find it so difficult to develop long-term, high trust relationships with workers is that senior managers feel compelled to focus on a maximisation of the share price. Failure to do so runs the risk of hostile takeover."

☐ Employers should be legally required to disclose information about their training investment, personnel managers said yesterday.

Of IPD delegates polled at the conference, four-fifths of personnel and training professionals agree that organisations should be required by law to publish details.

Of those backing the proposal, first put forward by the TUC, 89 per cent thought that organisations should be obliged to disclose in their annual reports how training targets related to general business objectives, while 86 per cent said that the annual cost of training should be disclosed as a proportion of overall operational costs.

Personnel managers were almost evenly divided on where the responsibility for training should lie, with 47 per cent believing it should be left firmly with employers, and almost the same number saying the state should intervene.

New British disease, page 29

The will to work on

NEW research published yesterday at the IPD conference suggested a widespread desire of people such as lottery winners to carry on working.

Pointing to one lottery winner, Linda Hill, a Butlins chambermaid, who has vowed to carry on with her job, the research by Birkbeck College found that less than half of the 200 people surveyed would give up work if they hit the jackpot.

A quarter said they would carry on with their current jobs, with 11 per cent saying they would set up their own business, and 8 per cent said they would work fewer hours.

David Guest, occupational psychology professor at Birkbeck, said: "While there is much talk of the end of the traditional career, individuals clearly value career paths and job security."

☐ Decentralisation of pay bargaining could lead to wage inflation and industrial unrest, the conference was told. Moving pay down to local levels could offer employees the opportunity for strategic bargaining.

Philip Bassett

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Adidas flotation to raise DM1.54bn

ADIDAS, the German sports shoe and apparel group returned to profit by Robert Louis-Dreyfus, the former managing director of Saatchi & Saatchi, hopes to raise up to DM1.54 billion with the 50.1 per cent of the company it is floating on the stock market. The shares, which will be initially listed on the Frankfurt bourse, with quotes also expected on London's SEAQ and the Paris bourse, will be offered at DM59 and DM68. Bids for shares are open until November 10 and the final price will be set on November 13.

In conjunction with the launch of its book-building process, Adidas reported a DM110 million jump in net profit to DM251 million in the first nine months this year. But it warned would-be shareholders that industry seasonality meant that fourth-quarter sales were generally lower than in previous quarters. Adidas was founded in 1948 by Adi Dassler, but the family sold out to Bernard Tapie, the controversial French entrepreneur and politician, in 1990. M Louis-Dreyfus led a group of investors, including French banks, to rescue the company, taking a personal stake of 25 per cent.

Tempus, page 28

North Sea output up

NORTH SEA oil output rose by more than 100,000 barrels per day in September as summer maintenance programmes ended. Output averaged 2.58 million bpd, and oil revenues rose 8.9 per cent to average £27.7 million per day, the monthly Royal Bank of Scotland oil and gas index showed. The average dollar price per barrel of Brent crude rose 3.8 per cent to $16.68. Gas output also began its seasonal recovery, with production up 26.9 per cent against August. Year-on-year gas output was marginally lower.

Westbury beats slump

WESTBURY, the Cheltenham housebuilder, saw pre-tax profits jump 13 per cent to £6.5 million in the six months to August 31. Turnover rose 12 per cent to £89.6 million as private house sales and average prices increased. Despite the tough conditions in the property market, Westbury has pushed operating margins up from 8.2 per cent to 8.9 per cent. The interim dividend is lifted to 2p a share from 1.9p. The shares rose 5p to 160p. Martin Donohue replaces Richard Fraser as chief executive next month.

Cortworth seeks listing

CORTWORTH, the specialist engineering group formed via a £40.3 million management buyout from Williams Holdings, seeks a stock market listing next month with an expected value of about £60 million. The £6 million raised will repay borrowings. Cortworth, employing 1,200, forecasts a 32 per cent rise in 1995 operating profit to not less than £8.5 million. A new structure will leave Williams with a 19 per cent shareholding, venture capitalists 6 per cent and the management team a combined 20 per cent.

KENYA

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SAMBURU
1 Nt Nairobi, 2 Nts Samburu, 1Nt Treetops,
1 Nt Lake Naivasha, 2 Nts Masai Mara,
Optional 7 Nts at the Beach
7 Nts from £797, 14 Nts INC BEACH from £925

THORN TREE
1 Nt Nairobi, 1 Nt Treetops,
1 Nt Lake Naivasha, 2 Nts Masai Mara,
Optional 7 Nts at the Beach
5 Nts from £702, 12 Nts INC BEACH from £831

KILI SAFARI
1 Nt Nairobi, 2 Nts Amboseli,
1 Nt Lake Elementaita, 2 Nts Masai Mara,
Optional 7 Nts at the Beach
6 Nts from £767, 13 Nts INC BEACH from £896

SERENGETI
1 Nt Nairobi, 1 Nt Amboseli, 1 Nt Ngorongoro,
2 Nts Serengeti, 1 Nt Lake Manyara,
Optional 7 Nts at the Beach
6 Nts from £1090, 14 Nts INC BEACH from £1218

EGYPT/KENYA
4 Nts NILE CRUISE; aboard 5★ M/S RA visiting
Luxor, Thebes, Edfu, Kom Ombu, Aswan, Philea;
then 2 Nts Cairo, followed by 5 Nts SAFARI:
1 Nt Nairobi, 1 Nt Treetops,
1 Nt Lake Naivasha, 2 Nts Masai Mara
11 Nts from £1270, Kenyan Coast from £17 per nt sharing

INDO-KENYA
15 Exotic Nights to explore the wonders of INDIA
& The Unmatched Wildlife of AFRICA;
beginning 2 Nts Delhi, 1 Nt Agra & the Taj,
2 Nts Jaipur - The Pink City, 1 Nt Aurangabad
1 Nt Bombay; followed by a 7 Nt SAFARI;
1 Nt Nairobi, 2 Nts Samburu, 1 Nt Treetops,
1 Nt Lake Naivasha, 2 Nts Masai Mara
15 Nts from £1750, Kenyan Coast from £17 per nt sharing

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هكذا من الأصل

☐ Eddie George addresses the Japanese ☐ Pay bargaining at Ford ☐ Water companies strike a deal

Bonfire of the regulations

☐ IN ANY industry, it is the smaller competitors rather than the big players that have the most to fear from a bonfire of the regulations. This is as true in investment banking as it is in sandwich making.

Scrap all hygiene inspections of local sandwich bars, and the public will, out of safety, buy their lunch at Marks & Spencer. Allow smaller banks to founder without compensation, rather than letting them operate within a firm regulatory framework, and the depositors will shun nearly all but Barclays and the NatWest. The end result of both is the death of the small independent player.

It is no coincidence that the purchases of Kleinwort Benson, Smith New Court and Warburg by overseas competitors, and the virtual disappearance of independent private investment banking in the City, came after the collapse of Barings. Investors would sooner have their money with Dresdner Bank or Swiss Bank, whose own central banks would have supported them to the gates of Hell, than with a Kleinwort or a Warburg that could theoretically have gone the same way as Barings.

Eddie George was well aware of this as he set off to teach the Japanese about banking. He said, quite rightly, that to establish a stainless steel safety net that would catch all who suffered as a result of failure would remove any element of chance.

Banks would merely vie with each other to establish the highest-risk investment strategy offering the best possible return, because only this would attract investors who were certain not to lose their cash. The result, of course, would be widespread collapses, in the end throwing off more losses than the surviving banks could afford to absorb.

The middle line between laissez-faire deregulation and the infallible safety net is surveillance of banks' activities and a clear line drawn on how far they can go in taking risks before their licences are withdrawn. But surveillance must inevitably sometimes fail and, Mr George said, not every collapse can be blamed on the regulator.

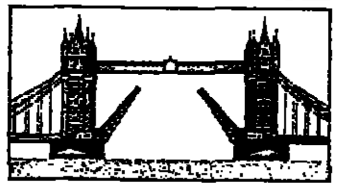
The backwash from Barings is now focused on what management in London knew about events in Singapore, but even the hostile report from the authorities there did not go so far as to suggest that the Bank of England should have known. There was, in fact, no way that it could.

Mr George was invited to Tokyo as an expert witness to inject a note of hard-headed realism. He told Japanese bankers that it was not an item of faith that they should prop up every single failed bank. Just how much the Japanese take on board is up to them, but the lesson has already been hard learnt in London.

Spanner in the works

☐ THE Ford management's reponse to the workforce's demand for a share in the productivity improvements gained over the past decade, in the form of inflation-busting wages, is, stripped of the niceties of pay bargaining, a brutal one. The employees' reward is their continued employment.

PENNINGTON



It is a common enough approach, on the shopfloor or in the office. This week brought the publication of a report that saw widespread overwork as a legacy of the recession, and employers' refusal to raise depleted staffing levels to cope with the upturn.

The flare-up at Ford was always going to be the first flashpoint in the new war between employees and management forecast by John Monks, TUC General Secretary, six weeks ago. The engineering unions' last attempt to force shorter working hours was in the late 1980s, and it was a success that Ford will not want to see repeated.

Various factors might count in the engineering union's favour this time. Unemployment has fallen drastically to little more than 8 per cent, but this still masks pronounced regional variations. Ford at Halewood may still count on high local unemployment, but not so Ford in Dagenham.

Secondly, the cut-back on training, and scrapping of apprentice schemes for engineers, for example, means that even high local unemployment, as at Halewood, may not provide a reservoir of the necessary skills. This labour shortage runs counter to the enormous expansion of the British motor industry — Ford has a deal more invested in Britain than it did a few years ago. Witness the new production line at Dagenham to handle production of the new Fiesta there, or last week's decision to build a new engine at Bridgend.

Last year's motor industry pay talks started with fire and brimstone but ended with settlements around the inflation rate. Ford has more flexibility than in the past to switch production around Europe. The new leadership at the AEEU is clearly keen for a fight. The same may not be true of the Ford workforce.

Splashing out on the tiddlers

☐ IT WILL probably come as a surprise to most of the millions who bought into the 1989 privatisation of ten water companies that there were at the time another 29 of them in England and Wales. The information is of dwindling relevance as the others are gradually taken over.

The architect of this consolidation is Ian Byatt, the industry regulator, who has evolved a doctrine whereby the tiddlers can disappear if the bribe to the consumer is big enough. Regulators are powerfully attached to their comparators, the number of companies within their industry whose performance they can compare and contrast in setting price limits.

Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, has made something of a fetish of his comparators by fruitlessly opposing takeover bids in his industry. The Byatt doctrine is more subtle. The larger the businesses being merged, the bigger the cost savings the merger will attract, and the more that must be clipped off customers' bills.

For East Surrey and Cheam, fairly low down the food chain, 5 per cent will suffice — for Northumbrian, being courted by Lyonnaise des Eaux, up to 15 per cent. Once Lyonnaise opens up the floodgates for water bids by renewing its offer, the Byatt doctrine will again be needed.

CINVen triumphant

☐ CINVen has won an important victory. Any number of City workforces have been traded back and forth of late. CINVen, which likes to think of itself as innovative and fleet of foot, was to have been sold with the much larger CINMan. But the CINVen management made it clear that without a buyout they were prepared to walk, and that without them there was no business. They were right.

Ellerman to sell clubs stake

By Robert Boyd

ELLERMAN Corporation, the investment company controlled by the millionaire Barclay brothers, has informed London Clubs International of the intention to sell off its 24 per cent stake in the casino group, raising £72 million.

London Clubs, whose market capitalisation stands at about £300 million, was rescued in 1992 by Frederick and David Barclay, who invested £15 million.

The brothers, who also own *The European* newspaper, have an estimated personal fortune of £500 million. They are believed to be seeking to buy *The Scotsman*, *Scotland on Sunday* and the *Evening News* from the Canadian-based Thomson Corporation.

According to London Clubs, Ellerman has decided to realise its stake in the company in the light of other investments it is pursuing, including the £75 million purchase of The Ritz Hotel in London.

The casino operator said it now welcomed the chance to broaden its spread of shareholders, which currently includes institutional investors PDFM, Fidelity and Legal & General.

Fears over destocking force ICI shares down

By Christine Buckley

WEAKER volumes and fears over destocking sent shares in Imperial Chemicals Industries down sharply yesterday after it unveiled third-quarter trading figures.

Although turnover improved 12 per cent in the third quarter, compared with the same period last year, the rise was fuelled by price increases and acquisitions. Volumes slipped 4 per cent.

ICI, while maintaining a bullish stance for its future, said there were signs of destocking.

Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman, said: "After a very strong sales volume increase at the start of the year, demand levels abated, caused in part by destocking." But he added that the company expected the world chemical market to resume growth and that the slowdown was an adjustment.

However, concern in the market that the decline was more fundamental led to a 24p slide in the share price to 779p. Some analysts fear that the slowing momentum will significantly impair ICI's trading opportunities.

Sir Ronald insisted that ICI's performance had been sound. "These are good results. The robust performance from many of our businesses in the seasonally slow third quarter was achieved against a moderating rate of economic expansion in the OECD countries."

ICI said that its plan announced in the summer to take up to £400 million in costs out of the business by 1997 was proceeding well. In the first nine months of this year it has cut 2,500 jobs, incurring severance charges of £30 million. It has now fully completed the restructuring begun in 1990 when it said it would remove up to £500 million in costs. The company said that savings of £480 million had been made.

Pre-tax profits before exceptionals in the third quarter were £248 million, compared with £131 million for the same period in 1994.

The biggest improvements came in industrial chemicals, while ICI's divisions which are geared to consumer demand, such as paints, fared the worst.

Trading profit in industrial chemicals, where margins had improved after price increases in some products, reached £124 million in the third quarter, compared with £71 million for last year.

Profit in paints fell from £37 million in the third quarter of last year to £32 million this year. Explosives, too, showed a marked decline with profit more than halving to £7 million from £15 million. The company blamed this performance largely on falling volumes in the competitive US market.

Tempus, page 28

PETER TRIEVNOR

Mark Vaughan-Lee, left, and Martin St Quinton, chief executive of Danka Europe

Robert Maxwell's 'towering rage'

By Our City Staff

ROBERT MAXWELL flew into a towering rage, rolled up his shirt sleeves and banged his fists on the boardroom table when he discovered fellow directors had been meeting behind his back, a court was told yesterday.

Before the board meeting of MCC in August 1991, three months before his death, Robert Maxwell learnt that the directors had been meeting privately to discuss concerns about the level of inter-company debt between MCC and the private Maxwell companies.

"My father was in a towering rage because he considered their conduct to be disloyal, which was a grievous sin in his canon of sins," Kevin Maxwell, his son, told the jury at the Old Bailey.

Kevin Maxwell said that after his father's death he had arranged for the group's assets to be valued because he believed this would demonstrate that they exceeded the liabilities. There was no suggestion by the banks that the group was insolvent and "should shut down the shop".

Questioned by his counsel, Mr Alun Jones, QC, Mr Maxwell said he was aware of a share support scheme on which his father embarked after what he believed was a bear raid on MCC shares by certain City institutions.

This involved using up to £150 million of MCC's money to buy back its own shares through offshore groups. Mr Maxwell said he had no doubt the scheme was legal — but it was an example of how his father "pushed the law to its limits".

Kevin Maxwell, 36, his brother Ian, 39, and former Maxwell financial adviser Larry Trachtenberg, 42, deny conspiracy to defraud the Maxwell group pension funds by misusing shares. The trial continues today.

Danka to buy Infotec for £109m

By Philip Pangalos

DANKA Business Systems, the fast-growing office equipment group, is acquiring Infotec Europe, one of Europe's largest independent copier and fax suppliers, for Dfl 270 million (£109 million).

Infotec made pre-tax profits of £7.7 million in 1994, on sales of £180 million.

Danka, whose chairman is Mark Vaughan-Lee, announced pre-tax profits up 28 per cent to £27 million in the six months to September 30, on turnover ahead 40 per cent to £330 million. The interim dividend is 1.08p (0.9p) to be paid on January 24, from earnings ahead 30 per cent to 9.8p (7.5p) a share.

Dan Doyle, chief executive, said: "Our margins remain strong despite the rapid pace of acquisitions."

The cash purchase will be financed partly by a $100 million extension to Danka's bank facilities. The shares fell 67p to 489p.

Harnischfeger wins Dobson Park battle

By Robert Boyd

DOBSON Park Industries has finally surrendered to the takeover bid by Harnischfeger Industries, its US rival, recommending an improved 130p per share offer.

Harnischfeger wants to link Joy, its own coalface drilling company, with the roof-support expertise of Longwall International, Dobson Park's mining subsidiary.

An original 110p bid was rejected by the board of the Wigan company and a subsequent offer of 125p per share earlier this week was also parried.

However, yesterday Alan Kaye, chairman of Dobson Park, said: "Harnischfeger have revised their offer to a level which recognises both the transformation in Longwall and the strength of its leading position in the world market for mining equipment."

The agreed terms allow shareholders to retain a 3.3p special dividend, giving a total of 133.3p per share, valuing Dobson Park at £209 million — a 61 per cent premium over its share price on September 1.

Jeffrey Grade, chief executive of Harnischfeger, said: "The combination of Joy and Longwall will provide our global customers with the world's most advanced longwall mining system."

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IT PAYS TO TALK

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Takeover spotlight now on Legal & General

DES JENSON

On the defensive at Country Casuals: Mark Bunce, left, Andrew Mills-Baker, Tom Adam and Christina Bunce

BRITAIN'S second largest insurer, **Legal & General**, came within a whisker of its high during late trading, with a leap of 29p to 670p on talk that it could be the next bid target in the financial sector.

Word in the Square Mile suggests that **National Westminster Bank**, down 19p at 637p, wants to use the proceeds from the sale of its US Bancorp subsidiary to help to finance a bid. Brokers say the sale of Bancorp is expected to raise up to $4 billion. Both NatWest and Legal & General refused to make any comment last night.

There has been talk about a possible bid among the insurers for some time. At the close of business, Legal & General carried a price tag of £3.3 billion. It has funds under management estimated at £30 billion.

A merger of the two businesses would create a group with a value of almost £15 billion. NatWest is said to be flexing its financial muscle following the recent acquisition of Lloyds Bank by the TSB. Only last week its name was being linked with Gartmore, the fund manager, reckoned to be worth £400 million-plus.

The rest of the equity market staged a lacklustre performance, with uncertainties about the dollar continuing to weigh heavily with share prices on both sides of the Atlantic.

An opening fall of almost 50 points in the Dow Jones average only added to the gloom in London. But the FT-SE 100 index managed to close above its worst, with the dollar rallying on the news that President Yeltsin of Russia had been readmitted to hospital. The index finished down 18.2 points at 3,519.6. Turnover was a mediocre 634 million shares.

Thorn EMI dropped a further 25p to £14.69. One leading broker is struggling to place a line of two million shares currently overhanging the market.

T&N, the automotive parts group, firmed 1p to 160p as a line of six million shares went through the market at 155p. The company is due to appear in a New York court on Monday to tackle further claims for compensation by asbestosis sufferers.

A stock overhang also left **Rentokil** down 6p at 315p. Earlier this week the group confirmed that the head of its US operations had resigned.

Northern Electric climbed 24p to 873p following a buy recommendation from Kleinwort Benson, the broker. Kleinwort calculates that the flotation of the National Grid could be worth more to the company than originally thought. Northern has already promised to pass on the proceeds from the National Grid to shareholders.

Third-quarter figures from **ICI** came in at the top end of expectations, but this failed to be reflected in the price, which dropped 24p to 779p on turnover of 2.2 million shares. Pre-tax profits before exceptionals were almost doubled at £248 million, with profits for the nine months £393 million higher at £798 million. This failed to impress brokers, who said there was evidence to suggest that fund managers had started switching out of ICI and into rival **Courtaulds**, 9p stronger at 392p.

Country Casuals, the womenswear group, marked time at 140p after again rejecting the terms of a £27 million bid from Ciro, a company controlled by John Shannon, its former chairman. Country Casuals said the terms, worth 140p a share, seriously undervalued it.

Graham Kirkham, chairman of DFS Furniture, was again cutting a dash in the City after raising a cool £74.1 million with the disposal of some more shares in the business. This time the jovial Yorkshireman has placed 22.6 million shares, or 21.7 per cent of the company, at 328p with various institutions. It reduces the number of shares he holds in DFS to 31.25 million, or 30 per cent. **DFS** came to market in 1993 with Kirkham offering 48 per cent of the company, which netted him £130 million. The shares reacted with a rise of 11p to 346p.

Bluebird, the high-flying toymaker, firmed 3p to 360p as a battle for control of the company loomed. It emerged that rival Hasbro had acquired a 6.7 per cent stake. City speculators claim it could be the prelude to a bid with another toy company, Mattel, likely to be keeping a close eye on events. Chris Burgin, chief executive at Bluebird, used to be an employee of Hasbro UK.

Two of the smaller water companies have announced plans to merge in a deal which will create a £100 million company serving 609,000 customers. **Cheam** jumped 20p to 550p and East Surrey ended all-square at 473p. The terms are one Cheam 'A' share for every 1.2 East Surrey voting share.

Tesco resisted the downward pull of the rest of the market and rose 1p to 306p as BZW launched £50 million of Tesco Equity Linked, Income-Tilted Euro-Securities. The 16.75 million Tesco Elites pay income gross and quarterly, equivalent to an annual yield of 6.4 per cent compared with the historic yield of 3.7 per cent.

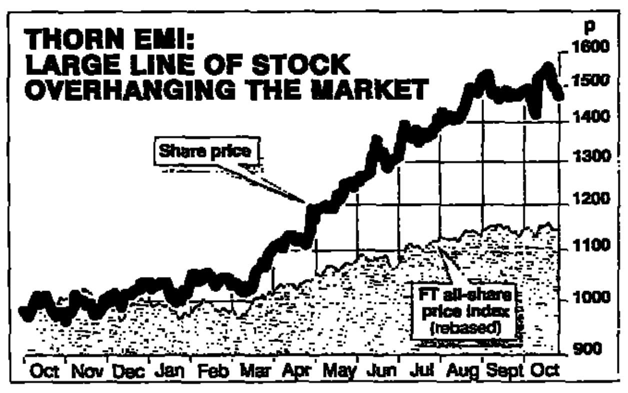
☐ **GILT-EDGED**: It was a day of consolidation for the market following Wednesday's sharp gains stemming from the successful reception given to the latest auction.

Prices made further headway before eventually closing below their best without any positive lead from the other bond markets. In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt finished five ticks higher at £106 7/32 as a total of 65,000 contracts were completed.

In the cash market, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 ended £¼ higher at £98 3/16, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £1/16 better at £102 7/16.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares on Wall Street were weaker in morning trade, continuing the heavy selling of the previous session. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 21.68 points at 4,732.00.

Cordiant, the advertising agency that used to trade as Saatchi & Saatchi, slipped 2p to 91p. Speculation inside the City is that the group's refinancing package has run into trouble and that the management face renegotiating with its backers. By the close of business almost 200,000 shares had been traded.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	4732.00 (-21.68)
S&P Composite	580.05 (-2.42)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	17726.68 (-244.13)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9774.48 (-66.58)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	448.39 (-6.84)
Sydney:	
AO	2086.4 (-4.4)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2131.84 (-18.29)
Singapore:	
Straits	2100.47 (-4.11)
Brussels:	
General	7749.15 (-1.69)
Paris:	
CAC-40	1754.12 (-10.00)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	692.20 (-2.30)
London:	
FT 30	2571.3 (-11.1)
FT 100	3519.6 (-18.2)
FT-SE Mid 250	3885.3 (-21.1)
FT-SE-A 350	1751.3 (-9.2)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1374.41 (+0.54)
FT A All-Share	1730.57 (-8.78)
FT Non Financials	1837.52 (-8.70)
FT Fixed Interest	111.64 (+0.78)
FT Govt Secs	93.35 (+0.16)
Bargains	24491
SEAQ Volume	643.9m
USM (Datastrm)	184.16 (-0.13)
US$	1.5740 (-0.0055)
German Mark	2.2071 (+0.0058)
Exchange Index	83.7 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1828
£:SDR	1.0513
RPI	150.6 Sep (3.9%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	149.2 Sep (3.1%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust Asian Sml	92	...
Abtrust Asian Wts	32	...
Cons Coal (50)	64	...
Creos International	111	+ 2
Euro Sales Fin	125	- 5
German Slr Wrts	18	...
Hay & Robertson	38	...
Indpt Radio	114	...
MultiMedia (45)	61	...
Murray Vct	103	...
Pemberstone	60	...
Pictet British (100)	103	...
Preston Nth (400)	400	...
Upton & Sthn Wts	½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Baris n/p (16)	2	...
First Choice n/p (60)	6½	...
Stordata Sols n/p (12)	6	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Dobson Park	132p (+9p)
Mitel	332p (+16p)
Legal & Gen	670p (+29p)
H Ramsdens	270p (+10p)
DFS Furniture	346p (+11p)
Acal	494p (+15p)
Psion	604p (+16p)
Unipalm	460p (+12p)
Courtaulds	392p (+9p)
Filtronic Com	465p (+10p)
Telspec	928p (+18p)
FALLS:	
Danka Bs Sys	489p (-67p)
Frost Group	210p (-14p)
T & S Stores	182p (-9p)
Micro Focus	615p (-30p)
Quality Care	261p (-12p)
Chiroscience	257p (-10p)
AIM	298p (-11p)
Intl Bus Comm	298p (-10p)
ICI	779p (-24p)
Nat West	637p (-19p)
Redland	344p (-10p)
Waste Mgmt Int	314p (-9p)
Airtours	320p (-9p)
Standard Chart	500p (-14p)
Porvair	405p (-10p)
Cable Wireless	411p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Investors discounted

IN A market wild about financial stocks, 3i has been more or less ignored, its share price closely tracking estimates of the venture capital group's asset value. Seeing the huge premiums awarded to the value of high street banks, the boys and girls down at Waterloo Road must be feeling a bit miffed. How can boring old retail bankers be worth so much when the market will not allow a penny of goodwill for the venture capitalists who manage 3i's portfolio of unquoted businesses.

By the standards of the banking sector, they have done pretty well, delivering unbroken annual dividend increases for ten years and an average return on equity in the mid-teens, a performance that the disaster-prone banks should envy. The problem is that 3i is classified as an investment trust, a collection of equity stakes worth no more nor less than their aggregate value on a given day. 3i has itself to blame for that; the company acquired investment trust status to avoid capital gains tax and the shares were floated in 1994 on a 13 per cent discount to net assets. The question is whether they deserve a further rerating.

3i reckons it is a business, not just a fund management operation, picking stocks. The problem is the extent to which it can control its assets. 3i has a sophisticated treasury operation, but the venture capital group has little control over earnings which depend on the performance of thousands of small businesses. However, these earnings should be showing good growth — small businesses tend to perform late in the cycle and 3i's valuations are based on profits almost a year old. That argues for a small premium even if the Waterloo Road team are in for free.

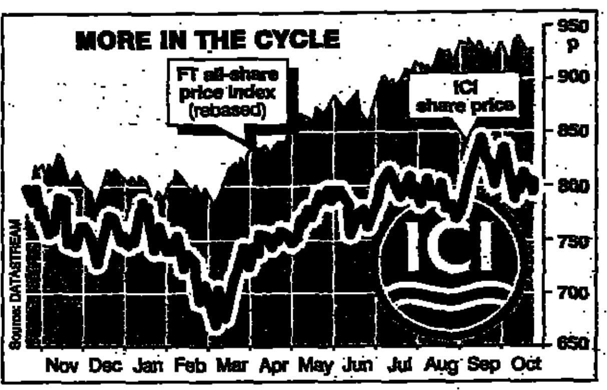
ICI

FALLING volumes in the third quarter at ICI confirmed rumours about industry destocking. Although the chemicals group was quick to describe the lower demand as a period of adjustment cyclical stocks like ICI are out of fashion. The market chose to treat the third quarter weakness as the early warning of a downturn and the shares retreated3 per cent.

ICI is in a hiatus. Its customers built up stocks aggressively in the first quarter with volume sales rising as much as 10 per cent but the growth quickly slowed to 3 per cent in the second quarter while in the past three months, volumes have fallen. None of this is a great surprise; the company had forecast overall growth of 3 per cent for the year.

There is little meat in this for bears. ICI has enjoyed price rises in the mid-teens for products like PTA which is used to make polyester and PET, the raw material for plastic bottles. And there are no signs of the build-up in capacity that presages a cyclical downturn.

ICI is currently benchmarking its performance against industry peers and the market is waiting to see the results. The shares could drift as investors wait for more cost-savings and signs of demand recovering but ICI should pay out more than 30p for the full year, providing a yield of about 5 per cent which should underpin the shares.



Adidas

SPORTS shoes are made in Asia but they are bought by teenagers in Europe and America where marketing and hype are key to driving sales. Robert Louis-Dreyfus, the former MD of Saatchi & Saatchi, is timing the flotation of Adidas, the German group that is world number three in sports shoes, to maximum effect.

Since the investor group he leads gained majority control last year, net profits are up 78 per cent. The turnround is set to continue next year, an Olympic year, and in 1998 the Soccer world championships will give a real opportunity for Adidas to build its leadership in football kit.

The target price of DM59-68 looks low compared with DM72 in the Frankfurt grey market, while the market leaders Nike and Reebok, are priced at around 13 times earnings, compared with a multiple of 11 for Adidas, at its mid-range price. Such a discount might seem excessive, but it would guarantee success for the issue and allow the owners to pay off debt they took on to aquire Adidas.

Louis-Dreyfus has committed himself to stay as chief executive until 1998 and has imposed a 12-month moratorium on disposing of the 25 per cent he owns in the company. It looks safe for now.

Bluebird Toys

SINDY and Barbie may be headed for another squabble over toys. Hasbro has emerged as a 6.7 per cent shareholder in Bluebird Toys, prompting excited talk of a re-run of last year's battle which involved JW Spear, the maker of Scrabble.

Hasbro, the US toys giant that owns Sindy and Action Man, lost Spear to Mattel, the US group that makes Barbie and Fisher-Price Toys and also boasts a longstanding and highly-profitable arrangement to distribute Bluebird's toys in America.

The market was unimpressed by Hasbro's attempt to downplay its investment in Bluebird. The 6.7 per cent stake is a result of the conversion of Bluebird unsecured loan stock into ordinary shares and Hasbro insisted it had "no present intention" of making an offer for Bluebird.

However, Hasbro's move looks too clever to be entirely innocent. Under Takeover Panel rules, its "no bid" statement bars it from launching a bid for at least three months but any aggressive move by Mattel would amount to a change of circumstances that would release Hasbro from its promise.

Bluebird's recent marketing deal with Disney makes the company attractive and Chris Burgin, Bluebird's chief executive, has long links with Hasbro. Yesterday's move looks like Sindy drawing a line in the sand.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	923-922	Mar	1038-1035
Mar	953-952	May	1057-1053
May	970-968	Jul	unq
Jul	987-986	Sep	-
Sep	1005-1003		
Dec	1022-1020	Volume:	6231

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	2450-2445	Jul	2170-2165
Jan	2314-2313	Sep	2145-2120
Mar	2260-2255	Nov	2120-2100
May	2230-2199	Volume:	4194

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	319.1-18.5
Spot 275.5		Oct	291.1-88.6
Dec	348.0-47.5	Dec	289.1-85.6
Mar	329.7-29.5	Mar	287.5-82.9
May	322.9-22.3	Volume:	2312

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 25

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	97.68	102.88	124.92
(+/-)	-0.81	+0.40	-0.53
Eng/Wales:	97.68	103.28	123.73
(+/-)	+0.81	-0.92	-0.42
(%)	-4.0	+1.0	-9.0
Scotland:	unq	101.74	131.83
(+/-)	—	-1.18	+0.07
(%)	—	+19.0	-23.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.30	+0.35
Brent 15 day (Dec)	16.30	+0.25
Brent 15 day (Jan)	16.15	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	17.60	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	17.35	+0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 175 (+2)	O: 177 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	154 (+2)	155 (+2)
Non EEC IH Nov	154 (+2)	155 (+2)
Non EEC IH Dec	154 (+3)	155 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	85 (+2)	87 (+2)
Naphtha	154 (n/c)	156 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Nov	152.00-52.25	Feb	151.00-51.75
Dec	151.75-52.00	Mar	150.25-50.50
Jan	151.50-51.75	Vol:	16300

BRENT (6.00pm)

Dec	16.29-16.30	Mar	15.85-15.88
Jan	16.11-16.12	Apr	15.81-15.83
Feb	16.01 SLR	Vol	50418

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	121.50	Nov	111.15
Jan	123.95	Jan	114.55
Mar	125.85	Mar	116.65
May	127.85	May	118.75
Jul	129.60	Sep	107.75
Volume:	374	Volume:	172

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	184.0
Apr	275.0	275.5
May	unq	312.5
	Volume:	33

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Nov 100.75-101.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 95	1570	1560	1560
Nov 95	1495	1480	1485
Dec 95	1495	1465	1490
Jan 96	1485	1440	1495
Vol: 209 lots		Open interest:	4035

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2853.0-2855.0	2745.0-2746.0	1217650
Lead ($/tonne)	706.00-707.00	686.00-687.00	191950
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	*1003.0-1004.0*	*1026.0-1027.0*	409175
Tin ($/tonne)	6285.0-6295.0	6340.0-6345.0	18255
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1656.0-1656.5	1693.0-1694.0	681500
Nickel ($/tonne)	8890.0-8900.0	8940.0-8950.0	119590

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	500	26	36	40	14	18	28
(*517)	550	5	14	18	47	49	60
Argyll	300	33	40	45	4	7	12
(*329)	330	14	22	27	15	19	25
ASDA	90	12	14	17	1	3	4
(*99)	100	5	9	11	5	7	8
Boots	550	24	37	45	15	20	27
(*558)	600	6	16	22	49	51	57
Br Airways	460	20	31	39	17	21	27
(*461)	500	7	15	21	44	46	51
BP	460	21	29	35	10	16	20
(*470)	500	5	12	17	35	39	43
Br Steel	160	9	14	16	6	7	11
(*164)	180	2	6	8	19	20	23
C & W	390	32	45	52	7	13	19
(*412)	420	16	29	35	20	27	33
CU	600	32	41	48	20	33	38
(*602)	650	12	19	27	51	65	69
ICI	750	50	60	69	10	23	28
(*779)	800	22	33	42	33	48	53
Kingfishr	460	40	50	55	7	17	22
(*483)	500	17	27	33	24	37	42
Land Sec	550	33	43	49	8	11	20
(*574)	600	8	17	22	35	37	47
M & S	420	19	30	35	9	14	19
(*428)	460	4	12	16	35	38	42
Nat West	600	52	59	69	9	20	28
(*635)	650	21	31	42	30	45	52
Sainsbury	*390*	*26*	*35*	*39*	*6*	*10*	*14*
(*408)	420	11	19	23	19	24	28
Shell	700	49	59	63	4	12	16
(*734)	750	16	27	33	22	35	38
Smkl Bch	650	36	50	61	14	21	28
(*667)	700	12	26	37	42	50	54
Storehse	300	18	24	30	8	11	15
(*308)	330	5	11	15	26	28	31
Trafalgar	20	5	5	7	3	4	5
(*22)	25	3	3	5	6	7	8
Unilever	1200	56	77	88	13	28	34
(*1235)	1250	26	48	60	35	52	57
Zeneca	1150	79	102	125	29	51	62
(*1181)	1200	51	74	98	51	74	84
	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Grnd Met	420	20	32	38	4	16	18
(*436)	460	2	14	20	27	39	40
Ladbroke	160	5	12	15	2	6	9
(*163)	180	0	4	6	17	18	21
Utd Bisc	260	21	30	36	1	6	9
(*278)	280	8	18	25	7	14	18

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	460	35	47	53	6	9	14
(*487)	500	12	24	30	24	27	32
Thames W	500	29	41	48	14	19	29
(*517)	550	9	20	25	45	48	58
	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BAT Ind	500	35	51	57	1	10	18
(*532)	550	6	23	29	21	31	43
BTR	300	27	34	37	0	3	6
(*326)	330	3	14	17	7	13	19
Br Aero	700	27	56	68	8	24	35
(*717)	750	6	32	44	36	50	60
Br Telcm	360	14	22	27	1	10	12
(*371)	390	1	8	12	19	28	29
Cadbury	500	30	47	50	4	15	21
(*524)	550	5	22	25	29	36	46
Guinness	500	11	27	34	6	16	23
(*502)	550	0	8	13	47	48	54
GEC	300	16	23	30	1	7	8
(*314)	330	1	8	14	16	22	23
Hanson	191	6	10	—	2	6	—
(*194)	211	0	3	—	17	22	—
LASMO	140	15	20	23	0	3	5
(*154)	160	2	9	11	7	11	14
Lucas	180	7	15	19	3	7	9
(*184)	200	0	6	10	16	19	20
Pilkngtn	180	6	13	17	3	9	10
(*181)	200	1	6	8	19	22	23
Prudential	390	10	24	30	6	15	24
(*393)	420	1	10	17	27	31	41
Redland	330	17	30	36	3	8	16
(*343)	360	2	14	20	18	22	31
R-Royce	140	19	23	25	0	3	3
(*158)	160	3	10	12	4	9	11
Tesco	300	9	20	25	3	9	15
(*304)	330	0	7	11	29	27	32
Vodafone	260	8	17	25	5	13	16
(*261)	280	1	8	16	19	25	28
Williams	300	22	30	35	0	3	7
(*321)	330	3	12	17	10	15	21

FT-SE INDEX (*3520)

	3400	3450	3500	3550	3600	3650
Calls						
Nov	137	96	60	36	18	7
Dec	168	131	99	69	46	30
Jan	190	154	124	96	74	54
Feb	209	179	149	116	94	71
Jun	256	—	194	—	143	—
Puts						
Nov	14	23	39	66	102	147
Dec	33	47	66	89	118	155
Jan	48	63	83	106	135	168
Feb	56	77	93	116	144	175
Jun	102	—	138	—	186	—

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	500	45	57	59	6	16	19
(*536)	550	15	27	30	24	40	45
Amstrad	280	18	28	36	7	13	19
(*290)	300	9	18	25	16	23	26
Barclays	700	44	67	74	7	22	28
(*736)	750	19	37	47	27	46	51
Blue Circ	280	14	24	26	8	12	20
(*283)	300	6	14	17	20	24	31
Br Gas	240	11	18	21	7	10	14
(*242)	260	3	9	12	19	21	26
Dixons	360	33	41	50	4	11	14
(*385)	390	14	24	33	15	22	27
Forte	240	10	17	20	6	10	13
(*242)	260	3	8	11	19	21	24
Tarmac	80	9	13	14	2	3	5
(*87)	90	4	8	9	7	8	10
Hillsdwn	160	5	11	13	4	7	12
(*163)	180	0	4	5	19	20	26
Lonrho	140	20	22	24	1	2	4
(*157)	160	6	9	13	7	10	12
Sears	100	7	10	12	1	3	5
(*106)	110	2	5	7	6	8	10
Thrn Emi	1450	65	102	135	34	49	53
(*1469)	1500	41	76	107	61	74	76
Tomkins	240	14	23	29	3	7	9
(*252)	260	6	13	18	12	16	19
TSB	360	12	19	25	8	17	20
(*367)	390	1	7	10	26	30	37
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo Well	850	38	53	66	39	41	46
(*852)	900	17	30	44	57	70	74
HSBC	900	70	93	105	18	41	50
(*939)	950	41	65	78	38	65	77
Reuter	550	34	45	57	15	26	33
(*558)	600	13	22	34	40	53	60
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Royal Ins	360	30	44	50	7	18	24
(*382)	390	19	28	34	20	33	38
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	260	5	5	5	0	1	4
(*264)	280	0	0	0	17	19	20
	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Eastern Gp	950	25	29	28	0	0	1
(*974)	1000	0	0	0	26	30	32
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	460	33	44	54	4	9	16
(*488)	500	9	21	32	21	26	34
Scot Pwr	330	29	33	40	3	8	9
(*353)	360	9	15	23	13	20	21

October 26, 1995 Tot: 32796 Call: 9892
Put: 22904 FT-SE Call: 2790 Put: 8703
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 95	3541.0	3544.0	3517.0	3533.0	11822
Previous open interest: 68950	Mar 96				3562.0	0
FT-SE 250	Dec 95	3925.0	3925.0	3925.0	3910.0	50
Previous open interest: 3537	Mar 96					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 95	93.28	93.30	93.28	93.30	8958
Previous open interest: 335346	*Mar 96*	*93.39*	*93.43*	*93.39*	*93.42*	*18174*
	Jun 96	93.34	93.40	93.34	93.37	11168
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 95				94.22	0
Previous open interest: 110	Mar 96				94.49	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 95	96.01	96.01	95.95	95.97	20582
Previous open interest: 500153	Mar 96	96.15	96.16	96.10	96.12	30767
Long Gilt	Dec 95	105-30	106-18	105-29	106-07	66005
Previous open interest: 103294	Mar 96	105-19	105-20	105-19	105-22	115
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 95	121.45	121.66	121.30	121.48	4599
	Mar 96	120.35	120.36	120.13	120.28	729
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 95	96.30	96.55	96.07	96.37	164918
Previous open interest: 201470	Mar 96	95.71	95.90	95.65	95.78	1292
Three month ECU	Dec 95	94.17	94.25	94.16	94.22	2399
Previous open interest: 15474	Mar 96	94.41	94.46	94.41	94.43	497
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 95	97.53	97.89	97.82	97.87	4286
Previous open interest: 50261	Mar 96	97.91	97.98	97.97	97.96	4682
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 95	99.75	101.75	99.62	101.33	79443
Previous open interest: 50097	Mar 96	100.80	101.05	100.80	100.98	131

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 6¾ Week fixed: 6½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible] ; 3 mth [illegible] . Sell: 2 mth [illegible] ; 3 mth: [illegible] .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 6½ close 7					
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.72-5.69	n/a	5.80-5.77	5.73-5.70	5.71-5.68
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	7⅛-7	7⅛-7	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $382.90-383.00 **Close:** $382.90-383.30 **High:** $383.65-384.05
Low: $381.75-382.25 **AM:** $382.70 **PM:** $382.90

Krugerrand: $364.00-386.00 (£243.00-245.00)

Platinum: $410.00 (£260.75) **Silver:** $5.45 (£3.455) **Palladium:** $134.50 (£85.55)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 26	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4588-2.4765	2.4626-2.4658	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Brussels	45.15-45.46	45.21-45.32	12-7pr	32-24pr
Copenhagen	8.5270-8.5860	8.5580-8.5800	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	0.9705-0.9855	0.9706-0.9753	10-7pr	25-21pr
Frankfurt	2.1954-2.2054	2.1988-2.2018	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Lisbon	232.33-234.01	232.61-233.24	35-63ds	123-168ds
Madrid	191.94-192.47	191.84-192.13	43-53ds	130-148ds
Milan	2512.10-2538.50	2512.10-2516.20	7-9ds	24-26ds
Montreal	2.1468-2.1603	2.1571-2.1602	0.06-0.16ds	0.20-0.33ds
New York	1.5738-1.5802	1.5779-1.5788	0.11-0.09pr	0.35-0.30pr
Oslo	9.7320-9.8060	9.7820-9.7970	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	7.7310-7.7690	7.7430-7.7570	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Stockholm	10.4250-10.4660	10.4430-10.4660	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Tokyo	159.95-160.42	160.09-160.36	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	15.44-15.52	15.49-15.52	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Zurich	1.7857-1.7946	1.7857-1.7885	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3225-1.3234
Austria	9.82-9.83
Belgium (Com)	28.91-28.92
Canada	1.3653-1.3658
Denmark	5.4560-5.4590
France	4.9375-4.9395
Germany	1.4020-1.4030
Hong Kong	7.7321-7.7331
Ireland	1.6140-1.6160
Italy	1596.82-1597.82
Japan	101.80-101.90
Malaysia	2.5395-2.5405
Netherlands	1.5717-1.5722
Norway	6.2205-6.2235
Portugal	148.40-148.50
Singapore	1.4163-1.4173
Spain	122.32-122.37
Sweden	6.6390-6.6455
Switzerland	1.1385-1.1395

OTHER STERLING

*Argentina peso**	*1.5715-1.5741*
Australia dollar	2.0810-2.0837
Bahrain dinar	0.5890-0.6010
Brazil real*	1.5070-1.5112
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.6960-0.7060
Finland markka	6.5750-6.6910
Greece drachma	360.75-367.75
Hong Kong dollar	12.1641-12.1734
India rupee	55.85-56.81
Indonesia rupiah	3546.00-3614.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4685-0.4785
Malaysia ringgit	3.9942-3.9983
New Zealand dollar	2.3909-2.3950
Pakistan rupee	49.98 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.6850-5.8090
Singapore dollar	2.2278-2.2308
S Africa rand (com)	*5.6910-5.7930*
U A E dirham	5.7350-5.8590

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	870	Legal & Gn	1,500
ASDA Gp	5,300	Lloyds Bk	1,600
Abbey Ntl	3,800	London Elect	387
Allied Dom	1,300	Marks Spr	4,200
Argyll Gp	4,500	Mid Elec	30
Arjo Wggns	695	NatWst Bk	4,500
AB Foods	314	Nat Power	2,900
BAA	967	NW Water	1,100
BAT Inds	2,500	P & O	2,000
BOC	1,200	Pearson	1,000
BP	6,400	PowerGen	1,800
BSkyB	3,300	Prudential	5,400
BTR	7,400	REXAM	1,000
BT	12,000	RMC	233
Bk of Scot	1,500	RTZ	1,200
Barclays	3,900	Rank Org	2,300
Bass	559	Reckitt Col	1,300
Blue Circle	731	Redland	2,600
Boots	2,800	Reed Intl	886
BAe	1,500	Rentokil	1,500
BA	1,900	Reuters	1,500
Brit Gas	14,000	Rolls Royce	7,700
Brit Steel	3,600	Royal Ins	1,700
Burmah Cstl	816	Ryl Bk Scot	1,100
Cable Wire	4,500	Sainsbury	3,100
Cadbury	1,200	Schroders	52
Carlton Cms	554	Scot & New	1,500
Cm Union	1,800	Scot Power	1,200
Cookson	481	Sears	3,400
Courtaulds	2,700	Svrn Trent	1,700
De La Rue	163	Shell Trans	4,800
Enterpr Oil	957	Siebe	614
Forte	1,900	SmKl Bch	3,800
GKN	681	Smith Nph	4,400
GRE	2,600	Sthern Elec	284
GUS	846	Std Chartd	1,400
Gen Acc	1,100	Sun Allnce	3,100
Gen Elec	5,100	TI Gp	451
Glaxo Well	7,300	TSB	2,100
Granada	1,400	Tate & Lyle	924
Grand Met	3,000	Tesco	3,600
Guinness	2,300	Thames W	2,000
HSBC	2,800	Thrn EMI	756
Hanson	7,800	Tomkins	1,500
ICI	2,200	Unilever	1,800
Inchcape	435	Vodafone	3,300
Kingfisher	1,500	Whitbread	1,700
LASMO	4,800	Wllms Hld	234
Ladbroke	709	Wolseley	615
Land Secs	524	Zeneca	1,000

	Oct 26 midday	Oct 25 close
AMP Inc	39	39
AMR Corp	65	66
AT & T	61	60
Abbott Labs	40	40
Advanced Micro	24	25
Aetna Life	67	69
Ahmanson (HF)	25	25
Air Prod & Chem	51	52
Albertson's	34	34
Alcan Aluminum	29	29
Alco Standard	87	88
Allied Signal	42	42
Alum Co of Am	50	49
Amax Gold Inc	5	5
Amerada Hess	44	43
Amer Brands	41	41
Amer El Power	39	39
Amer Express	40	40
Amer Genl Corp	32	33
Amer Home Pr	90	90
Amer Intl	83	83
Amer Stores	30	30
Ameritech	54	54
Amoco	64	65
Anheuser-Busch	66	64
Apple Computer	34	34
Archer Daniels	16	16
Armco	6	6
Armstrong Wrld	57	55
Asarco	30	30
Ashland Oil	32	32
Atl Richfield	107	107
Auto Data Pro	72	72
Avery Dennison	45	44
Avon Products	77	77
Baker Hughes	19	18
Baltim Gas & El	27	27
Banc One	34	35
BankAmerica	58	60
Bank of NY	42	43
Bankers Tr NY	63	63
Barnett Banks	56	56
Bausch & Lomb	35	36
Baxter Intl	39	39
Becton Dickinsn	66	65
Bell Atlantic	64	64
Bell Industries	21	21
BellSouth	77	77
Black & Decker	33	33
Block (H&R)	41	41
Boeing	66	67
Boise Cascade	39	35
Bristol Myrs Sq	78	77
Browning Ferris	28	30
Brunswick	19	19
Burlington Ntrn	81	81
CBS	80	80
CNA Financial	112	113
CPC Intl	66	67
CSX	81	83
Campbell Soup	53	53
Can Pacific	15	15
Cpd Cities ABC	*118*	*118*
Carolina Pwr	33	33
Caterpillar	57	52
Central & SW	27	27
Champion Intl	50	50
Chase Manhat	55	57
Chemical Bk	59	59
Chevron Corp	47	47
Chrysler	52	53
Chubb Corp	90	91
Cigna Corp	95	96
Citicorp	64	64
Clorox	72	72
Coastal Corp	33	33
Coca Cola	71	71
Colgate-Palmolive	70	71
Columbia Gas	37	37
Compaq Comp	53	53
Comp Ass Int	52	51
Conagra	39	39
Conrail	68	69
Cons Edison	31	31
Cons Nat Gas	38	38
Cooper Inds	33	33
Corestates	38	37
Corning Inc	27	27
Crown Cork	34	35
Dana Corp	28	28
Dayton Hudson	68	69
Deere	89	89
Delta Air Lines	65	66
Deluxe Corp	27	28
Detroit Edison	34	34
Digital Equip	53	53
Dillard Dept St	28	28
Disney (Walt)	57	57
Dominion Res	40	40
Donnelley (RR)	37	37
Dover Corp	37	37
Dow Chemical	70	70
Dow Jones	36	36
Dresser	20	21
Duke Power	45	45
Dun & Bradstreet	59	59
Du Pont	65	62
Eastman Kodak	64	62
Eaton Corp	50	51
Emerson Elec	71	71
Engelhard Corp	25	24
Enron Corp	35	35
Entergy	28	28
Ethyl Corp	11	11
Exxon	75	76
FMC Corp	70	71
FPL Group	42	42
Federal Express	82	81
Fed Nat Mtge	102	102
First Chicago	67	68
First Interstate	125	120
First Union Rlty	7	7
Fleet Fnl Grp	39	39
Fluor Corp	55	55
Ford Motor	29	29
GTE Corp	40	40
Gannett	54	54
Gap Inc Del	37	37
Gen Dynamics	55	55
Gen Electric	63	63
Gen Mills	57	58
Gen Motors	43	44
Gen Reinsurance	144	144
Gen Signal	32	31
Genuine Parts	39	39
Georgia Pac	83	83
Gillette	48	49
Glaxo Wellc ADR	28	27
Goodrich (BF)	65	66
Goodyear Tire	38	39
Grace (W&R)	55	55
Grt Atl Pac Tea	20	20
Great Wstn Fin	23	22
Halliburton	40	40
Harcourt General	39	40
Heinz (HJ)	47	46
Hercules	53	53
Hershey Foods	61	61
Hewlett Packard	89	89
Hilton Hotels	66	67
Home Depot	37	36
Homestake Mng	15	15
Honeywell	42	42
Household Intl	54	57
Houston Inds	47	47
Humana	23	21
ITT Corp	120	120
Illinois Tool	57	58
Illinova	28	28
INCO	32	31
Ingersoll Rand	35	35
Inland Steel	23	22
Intel Corp	65	66
IBM	96	96
Intl Flav & Fr	47	49
Intl Paper	36	36
James River Va	31	31
Johnsn & Jhnsn	81	82
Kellogg	74	74
Kerr-McGee	54	53
Kimberly-Clark	72	73
Kmart	9	10
Knight-Ridder	57	57
Lilly (Eli)	98	98
Limited Inc	18	18
Lincoln Nat	44	44
Litton	40	40
Liz Claiborne	27	27
Lockheed Martin	65	65
Louisiana Pac	23	23
MCI Comm	24	25
Marriott Int	36	37
Marsh & McLnn	82	83
Masco Corp	27	27
May Dept St	37	37
Maytag Corp	18	18
McDonalds	41	42
McDonnell D	81	81
McGraw Hill	83	82
Mead Corp	55	54
Medtronic	58	59
Mellon Bk	48	49
Melville Corp	31	32
Merck Inc	60	60
Merrill Lynch	55	56
Microsoft	95	95
Minnesota Mine	55	56
Mobil Corp	100	101
Monsanto	105	105
Morgan (JP)	76	77
Motorola Inc	64	64
Natl Semi	24	24
Natl Service Ind	29	29
Navistar Int	9	9
NBD Bancorp	38	37
NY Times A	29	29
Newmont Mng	36	37
Niag Mohawk	10	11
Nike B	113	112
NL Industries	13	13
Noram Energy	7	7
Nordstrom	37	37
Norfolk Sthrn	77	78
Nthn State Pwr	47	47
Norwest Corp	29	30
Nynex Corp	47	47
Occidental Pet	22	21
Ohio Edison	21	23
Oracle	42	43
Oryx Energy Co	11	11
Owens Corning	43	42
PPG Industries	43	43
PNC Bank	27	27
PP&L Res	23	23
Paccar Inc	41	42
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	25	25
Pac Gas & Elect	30	30
Pac Telesis	30	29
Pall Corp	23	23
Panhandle East	26	26
Peco Energy	28	29
Penney (JC)	43	43
Pennzoil	38	38
Pepsico	52	52
Pfizer	60	61
Phelps Dodge	62	61
Philip Morris	84	84
Phillips Pet	32	32
Pitney Bowes	42	43
Polaroid	41	41
PriceCostco	16	16
Procter & Gmbl	82	82
Providian	39	39
Pub Serv E & G	29	28
Quaker Oats	34	34
Ralston Purina	60	60
Raychem Corp	45	45
Raytheon	43	43
Reebok Intl	35	35
Reynolds Metals	49	50
Roadway Srvcs	45	45
Rockwell Intl	45	45
Rohm & Haas	55	54
Royal Dutch	123	122
Rubbermaid	26	25
SBC Comms	54	55
Safeco Corp	64	65
St Paul's Cos	51	50
Salomon Inc	36	36
Sara Lee Corp	29	29
Scecorp	17	17
Schering Plough	54	54
Schlumberger	62	62
Scott Paper	52	53
Seagram	35	35
Sears Roebuck	34	34
Shell Trans	70	70
Sherwin Wllms	36	35
Skyline Corp	17	17
Snap-On-Tools	42	42
Southern Co	24	24
Sprint Corp	37	37
Stanley Works	45	46
Sun Company	27	28
Sun Microsys	73	71
Suntrust	64	65
Supervalu	30	30
Sysco Corp	30	30
TRW Inc	66	68
TCC Inds	2	2
Tandem Comp	10	11
Tandy Corp	49	49
Teledyne	24	25
Temple Inland	45	46
Tenneco	42	43
Texaco	67	66
Texas Inst	66	67
Texas Utilities	37	36
Textron	67	67
Time Warner	37	37
Times-Mirror A	29	28
Timken	40	40
Torchmark	42	43
Toys R Us	21	23
Transamerica	66	66
Travelers	49	49
Tribune	63	63
Tyco Labs	61	61
UST Inc	29	27
UAL	173	172
US Inds	15	15
USX Marathon	18	18
Unicom	33	33
Unilever NV	130	130
Union Camp	51	51
Union Carbide	38	37
Union Pacific	65	65
Unisys Corp	8	8
USAIR Group	13	13
USF&G Corp	17	17
US Life	28	29
US West	47	47
United Tech	88	88
Unocal Corp	28	28
Upjohn	49	49
VF Corp	47	47
WMX Tech	27	28
Wal-Mart Stores	22	22
Warner-Lambert	88	88
Wells Fargo	208	207
Westinghouse El	17	14
Weyerhaeuser	44	45
Whirlpool	51	51
Whitman	21	21
Winn Dixie	36	36
Woolworth	14	15
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	48	48
Xerox	134	134
Yellow Corp	17	17

هكذا امن الاهرام

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Room at the top for Fred

IF THINGS always happen in threes, one can only wonder what else is in store for Fred Goodwin. This month has seen the birth of his first child, a son, John Frederick, followed yesterday by his appointment as chief executive of Clydesdale Bank at the age of 37. He returned to his native Scotland in April, leaving London where he had been running the liquidation of BCCI for Touche Ross, the accountant, to become deputy chief executive of Clydesdale. He takes over next March when Frank Cicutto, current chief executive, moves Down Under to become chief general manager of National Australia Bank, its parent. Goodwin heard the good news while shaving yesterday morning. His heart missed a beat when the phone rang — it is normally bad news at that time of the morning, he says.

Wot! No bonus?

BIG City bonuses are here to stay, if finance houses heed the warning of Napier Scott. The recruitment consultant's latest survey suggests almost one in three employees would quit immediately if their bonuses were scrapped, with 2 per cent threatening outright rebellion. Bosses, on the other hand, believe annual bonuses pegged to an individual's profit performance, encourage traders and salesmen to concentrate on short-term considerations. Yet no one dares make the first move in changing the bonuses, says Napier Scott.

Old Labour

John Monks, TUC General Secretary, drew attention to how far Britain's trade unions had come with a speech on the partnership role of unions to the Institute of Personnel and Development's annual conference yesterday. Recalling Ernest Bevin being questioned about the unions' strategy, Monks detailed Bevin's reply: "Our strategy," he said, "is to separate the bosses from their wallets." Very un-new Labour.

"Should be a runner"

Insiders

REMEMBER the days when the one person you could trust was your secretary? Not any more, says Alan Conroy, who heads the Office of Fair Trading's cartels task force. "We get some interesting information from secretaries. The closer the person is to the organisation, the better the information" he says in a run down of his organisation in the magazine *Building*.

Devaluation

FORGERS prefer notes because of their higher value. When the ten-franc piece came on the scene in France in 1988 its construction was hailed as impossible to counterfeit. But somehow the ten-franc piece has been forged. Many are to be found in the Riveria resorts. On close examination they are a bit redder than the official coins and the fit between the silver-coloured core and the gold coloured collar is discernibly rough. As much as 1 per cent of all ten-franc pieces now in circulation could be bogus.

Protect the banking system but not individual banks

Eddie George tells why he let Barings fail, in extracts from a Tokyo speech

Eddie George says the greatest contribution the Bank can make is to provide a stable macroeconomic environment

The financial system plays a vital role in the functioning of every economy. It is difficult to overestimate the extent of the economic and social damage that would be caused if financial intermediation were to be seriously interrupted.

Banks and other credit institutions take credit and market risks in competition with each other — and it is vital for the efficiency of the system in meeting the needs of the wider economy that they should. Occasionally, this is bound to mean that the value of a particular bank's assets is insufficient to to meet all its liabilities. Unless it can raise new capital, it fails. This need not have any significant impact on the wider economy. Indeed the possibility of individual bank failure is an essential discipline on the banking system. Our central banking concern *is* rather with the possibility that the failure will spread, affecting other financial institutions.

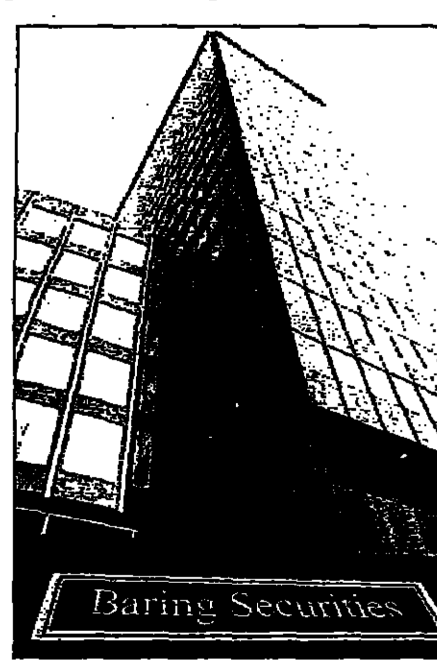
Banks deal extensively with each other, through the interbank market, and as counterparties in financial market transactions or through settlement systems. As a result, the failure of one bank may leave others directly, and heavily, exposed to losses as a result of that initial failure. There is also the possibility of a broader effect on confidence. This is particularly likely to affect banks which are thought to have been heavily exposed to the failed bank or have similar balance sheet characteristics to those of the failed bank.

The potential for systemic disturbance through contagion of this sort has increased with the evolution of the financial system. It is not just banks or credit institutions that have the capacity to cause systemic instability — nor is the risk of such problems contained within national frontiers. Securities firms and other investment institutions sometimes take huge positions in financial markets all around the world. And while their assets are typically marketable, and hence normally liquid, that liquidity can suddenly dry up. These intermediaries are no more immune from failure than banks.

What can we do to maintain financial stability? On the two main occasions since the war — in the early 1970s and again in the early 1990s — when Britain faced serious systemic financial problems, an important factor was the macroeconomic environment. In each case, banks lent heavily during the economic upswing (notably to the volatile property sector) only to find themselves overexposed when the economy had to be reined back. The subsequent easing of monetary policy once the economy had cooled down also contributed to the easing of the financial tension. Just as financial instability can disrupt the wider macroeconomy, so the behaviour of the macroeconomy can contribute to — even generate — financial instability. Perhaps the greatest single contribution that the Bank of England can make to maintaining the stability of the financial system is to provide a stable macroeconomic environment. Beyond that, there are essentially two things we can do:

☐ to try to prevent financial institutions from getting into trouble — through prudential supervision;

☐ to limit the damage by stopping it spreading — if necessary, by extending "last resort" assistance.



Barings' failure did not put the system at risk

Prevention — through supervision — is certainly better than cure. But we do not see it as our job to try to eliminate all risk in the financial system, wrapping it in cotton wool. If society demanded a largely risk-free financial system, then one could indeed be produced. But it would constrain financial intermediaries to such an extent that they would not be able to provide anything like the range of services they do now.

There is a difficult question about how to strike the balance between risk and stability. We see it as our task to provide a regime in which the users of financial services can benefit from robust competition. But we need to maintain public confidence in the system as a whole. This we try to do by seeking to satisfy ourselves as to the probity and competence of management and the adequacy of control systems, and by setting — and seeking to enforce — minimum standards of capital and liquidity in relation to activities undertaken. But there is no objective guide as to where to draw the line.

The Bank of England has had statutory responsibility for banking supervision for only a relatively short period. The small institutions at the heart of the secondary bank crisis of 1973-74 were unsupervised and that led to the 1979 Banking Act. All deposit-takers (other than building societies) needed to be authorised and supervised by ourselves. That Act also provided a degree of compensation for the depositors of banks that failed. Such compensation was however limited to 75 per cent of the eligible deposit, financed by banks in proportion to deposits. The argument is that small and often financially unsophisticated depositors cannot know enough about the affairs of deposit-taking institutions to be able to make informed judgments about their reliability. Small depositors therefore need special protection. But that protection was deliberately — and, in my view, wisely — limited. The intention of the Banking Act is unmistakeable. Banks *can* fail and depositors *can* lose some of their money. If depositors were relieved of all responsibility, deposits would simply flow to the highest bidder regardless of risk.

Prudential supervision is a powerful defence against systemic instability. It can be used proactively to draw attention to emerging pressures before they hit individual banks and to encourage them to prepare — by strengthening their financial positions or by scaling back their business to the levels of capital and liquidity likely to be available to them. We adopted this approach, for example, in relation to a group of some 40 banks in the United Kingdom in 1991-92 that we saw as vulnerable to a prospective contraction of the sterling wholesale markets at a time when their asset quality was deteriorating as a result of falling property prices. As a result, although these banks' total assets declined by over 25 per cent over two years, very few of them ran into serious difficulty.

But, however hard we try, not all such pressures can be foreseen, and, even where they are, they cannot all be avoided by prophylactic supervision.

We do not in normal circumstances see it as part of our job to prevent each and every bank from failing. The possibility of failure is necessary to the health of the financial system, as it is to the efficiency of all other economic activity. It is equally important that no particular bank — even a supposedly "good" bank — should be able to rely upon last resort assistance it is runs into difficulties.

Last resort assistance should only be made available to prevent the emergence of a systemic problem, not to prop up an individual bank no matter what bank it happens to be. It depends upon the overall *situation*, not upon the particular *institution*. This is why we have, on both the occasions to which I have referred, extended support to lesser institutions when there was a serious risk that a failure of *any* institution in the circumstances at the time would infect a whole range of others, whereas we recently withheld support from Barings — one of the most prestigious of British banks — when we judged that there was little risk of contagion from its failure.

Where there *is* systemic risk you cannot pick and choose, supporting some institutions but not others. Where there is *no* risk of contagion, you could choose to support certain banks but not others, but that would imply that the group of "worthy" banks would be supported regardless of the circumstances: and that would introduce a serious competitive distortion and moral hazard.

When we do consider extending "last resort" support, we will explore every option for a commercial solution before committing our own resoruces. We will look to major shareholders to provide support. We will encourage the bank to find a buyer, for some or all of itself, even at knockdown prices. Or there may be other banks that saw a common interest in an orderly resolution. Only when these options have been exhausted will we consider providing support ourselves.

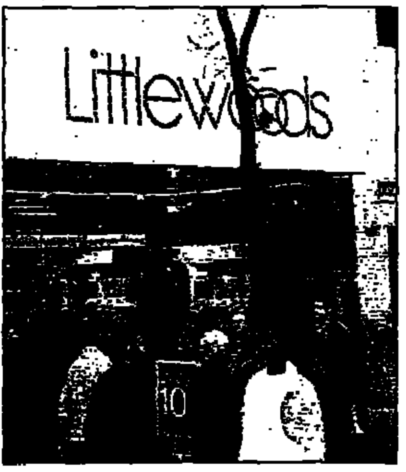
Then we will try to structure it so that any losses fall first on shareholders and any benefits come first to us. Our terms will be as penal as we can make them without precipitating the collapse we are trying to avoid. We aim to provide liquidity; we will not, in normal circumstances, support a bank that we know at the time to be insolvent.

Sarah Bagnall on the new battle for Littlewoods

A house divided against itself

The phoney war within Littlewoods is over and the real battle has begun. The feuding between the 32 members of the Moores family who own the retailing and football pools giant must finally produce a result.

It is the emergence of a potential £1.2 billion bid for the company from a consortium led by Barry Dale, Littlewoods' former chief executive, that has acted as the catalyst for change. While there is no formal offer on the table, the possibility of a bid forces the family to decide whether to end 72 years of private ownership by selling or floating the group. Littlewoods is riddled with infighting among family members and, although the company is private, the constant jostling for power and the stream of boardroom departures have been far from private.



Littlewoods faces a potential bid

Since the death, two years ago, of Sir John Moores, the company's founder, there has been tension among his children and grandchildren who inherited the empire. Sir John held the company in an iron-like grip and fiercely protected the group's private status.

The gap left by his death — at the age of 97 — has been filled by a myriad of relatives. Instead of a common purpose, the family is divided over the group's future direction. The dominant character is said to be Sir John's daughter, Lady Grantchester, whose son James Suenson-Taylor was at one time being groomed for the top. She is said to be determined to keep the company in the hands of the family, a desire shared by other relatives. However, several of the younger family members are keen to realise their wealth and are exerting pressure on the rest of the family to float the business. One option could be that the company buys back shares from those who want to dispose of, or reduce, their holdings.

Under Littlewoods' rules, a shareholder can only sell shares to an outsider with the backing of 75 per cent.

Whatever the family decides, it is unlikely that selling the company to Mr Dale will find favour with some of the family. Mr Dale was fired by the company in March for alleged breach of fiduciary duty and he is suing for compensation of at least £1.4 million for wrongful dismissal. He has sucessfully lined up a long list of financial backers for his possible offer, including a number of venture capital groups — Prudential, Electra, Apax Partners, Candover Investments and Legal & General. The debt providers include Chemical Bank, Deutsche, Fuji and NationsBank of America, while Dawnay Day, a small investment bank, is advising the consortium.

The offer is worth 848p an ordinary share and 189p a preference share, valuing Littlewoods at £1.2 billion — a premium to the net asset value of £870 million. If successful, the consortium intends to install Mr Dale as chairman and John Coleman, former chief executive of Texas Homecare, as managing director of the retail division. The consortium is also offering the family the chance to retain up to 25 per cent of the equity.

The question now is whether the family can agree on the group's direction. If it opts to end the group's private status, then the company is in play and other offers are likely to crawl out of the woodwork. If it decides to keep control of the group, the wranglings and power struggles will continue, diverting attention from the real issue of running the business at a time when it is faced with the toughest market conditions in its history.

Spread of the new British disease

Long hours and harder work are two of the symptoms, says **Philip Bassett**

People are working harder than ever and their loyalty to employers remains high, but they have little faith in promises being kept, personnel managers meeting in Harrogate heard yesterday.

The annual conference of the Institute of Personnel and Development was presented with new research findings on attitudes to work that suggested a wide gap between what companies and employees expect from each other.

"Organisations may be managing for insecurity of employment," according to the survey, carried out for the IPD by Templeton College, Oxford, "but the majority of their employees are still expecting security."

Equally, though companies say that people are their most important asset, the reality of trust is low.

Employers say they are empowering their employees, but there is in fact a wide gulf between that and the influence employees feel they have at work. "Organisations may feel that they have defined a new employment relationship," says Templeton's Roger Undy, "but it is more questionable that their rhetoric has created this new reality for many of their employees."

The research, carried out for Templeton by the Harris polling organisation, supports other evidence that the new, flexible world of work may be having a major negative impact.

Austin Knight, the recruitment consultants, said that the new phenomenon of long working hours, stemming largely from people working harder after other people in their organisations have lost their jobs, is now "the new British disease", with damaging implications for British families and economic recovery.

"There is a widening gap between the warm-sounding rhetoric and the reality of the world of work in the 1990s," John Monks, the TUC's General Secretary told the conference. "The sad reality is that far too many employees feel that they are treated by their employers as disposable commodities and as the most flexible item on the balance sheet."

Based on a sample of more than 1,000 managers and employees taken during the summer, the IPD survey found that almost two-thirds said they were now working harder. Loyalty levels remain high, with 77 per cent saying their have either a lot or some loyalty to their organisation. Despite that, suspicion is high, too, with 73 per cent saying they have only some, or little or no trust at all in the likelihood of their organisation keeping job promises.

Less than half now see their current employment as a long-term job in which they will stay, although 48 per cent say they are either not too confident, or not confident at all, that they would get another job at the same rates of pay without having to move.

"While many organisations are predicting the end of the career and lifetime employment, their employees are still banking on being in their jobs for the long haul," says Ewart Wooldridge, IPD employee relations vice-president. "This discrepancy between people's expectations of job security and a defined career path and what employers are actually offering has helped to create a climate of suspicion."

> Career development is apparently going down the drain

Government ministers take a sharply different view, arguing not only that greater labour market flexibility is vital for job creation, but that the hard evidence of its success is already there, citing as examples of employment growth key inward investors such as Nissan, Samsung and Siemens, which will detail its job strategy for its new plant in the North East.

Others cite the personal damage to employees and their families. Cary Cooper, Britain's leading expert on stress, warns against a "stress-mad culture" and says that part-time and short-term jobs, flexible working and the surge in self-employment will have a big effect on stress levels. "Career development is apparently going down the drain and that raises serious issues about people's ability to cope," he says. "We are going to have to learn strategies to deal with the stress of insecurity."

BUSINESS ACCOUNTS

IS YOUR BANK LAUGHING ALL THE WAY?

BANKS	INTEREST EARNED AFTER COSTS*
High Street Bank	–£76.50
High Street Bank	–£50.00
High Street Bank	£21.00
High Street Bank	–£49.30
Cater Allen Bank	£450.00

Annual interest earned on a credit balance of £10,000 after deduction of costs for 150 transactions per quarter. *Source: Calculation based on interest rates supplied by Moneyfacts and on charges obtained from high street banks. Information correct at time of going to print.

It's no wonder. Just look at our chart.

After costs and interest earned, you would owe the high street bank with the worst performing account £76.50. But, with the Cater Allen Corporate High Interest Cheque Account, you would be £526.50 better off.

Why? Because we pay a higher interest rate and will give you 150 free transactions each quarter.

This account is for businesses that maintain a credit balance and the higher interest rate reflects your status.

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Groband Amer	183.40	194.10	- 0.70	0.12
Groband Equity	261.00	277.60	- 1.50	2.18
Groband Euro	228.90	242.20	+ 0.60	1.30
Groband Exor Bal	122.60	127.10	...	1.01
Groband Gil	73.94	76.73	- 0.58	5.31
Groband Japan	161.40	170.80	- 2.00	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	598.90	637.20†		2.69
General Inc	514.50	547.40†	...	2.89
UK Growth Acc	406.20	432.20†		2.88
UK Growth Inc	270.70	288.00†		2.88
Higher Inc Acc	752.30	800.40†	...	4.10
Higher Inc Inc	418.80	445.60†		4.10
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	197.90	209.10†		5.79
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	91.00	96.12†		5.79
Nth America	321.40	342.00†	...	...
Europe	307.40	327.10†		0.94
Brit Excell	80.60	85.75		2.95
Bnt Fndmtls Acc	110.00	117.10†		4.73
Bnt Fndmtls Inc	77.02	81.94†		4.73
Global Opps	92.31	98.21		0.37
Balanced Acc	58.48	62.22†		2.98
Balanced Inc	55.96	59.54†		2.98
Japan Acc	43.84	46.64†	...	
Pac Basin Acc	369.20	392.80†		0.96
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	128.60	136.50†	+ 1.20	7.33
High Inc Equity	174.50	186.00†	- 0.70	4.22
Worldwide Bond	287.40	304.80	+ 1.90	4.59
Capital Growth				
American Growth	320.50	342.80	- 2.90	0.53
Asian Pacific	304.50	325.70	+ 0.20	
Assets & Earnings	292.30	311.00	- 0.30	2.73
Comdty & Energy	101.60	108.70	+ 1.30	0.12
Euro Capital Inc	145.20	155.30	+ 0.10	0.62
-do- Accum	156.80	166.60	+ 0.20	0.62
General	258.90	275.40	- 1.80	3.02
Japan	112.90	120.70	- 2.00	
Worldwide	148.00	158.30	- 0.40	1.53
US Emerging Cos	165.50	176.10	- 1.90	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	90.45	96.59	- 0.39	2.64
American Portfolio	104.37	110.78	- 0.68	1.00
European Portfolio	109.09	116.52†	- 1.31	0.56
High Income	50.81	50.91	+ 0.12	8.00
Japanese Portfolio	83.71	87.77†	- 0.98	
Pacific Portfolio	140.95	151.56	- 0.10	1.48
UK Inc & Growth	83.14	89.14†	- 0.32	3.03
Utility & Bond	58.15	58.79	+ 0.08	8.52
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	709.36	720.08	- 1.59	4.42
Fxd Int Sec	152.17	152.77	- 0.80	8.43
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	696.61	707.13	- 7.11	4.51
Investment Acc	5230.67	5311.14	- 91.35	
Fixed Int Inc	124.21	124.71	+ 0.86	9.22
Fixed Int Acc	206.69	207.51	+ 1.07	
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
0171 837 7887				
Intl Growth	117.35	129.72		
UK Income	110.56	120.00		6.33
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	86.19	90.99†	...	2.67
Beck Bio-Tech	37.15	40.92	- 0.54	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	164.61	172.86		0.74
City Fin Assets	73.77	77.47†		1.77
City Fin America	95.32	100.08		
City Fin Intl	82.49	86.61†		1.37
City Fin Japan	145.83	152.92		
Friars Hse Cap	278.52	301.18	..	2.42
Friars Hse Inc	193.25	209.40	...	4.03
Buckley Wrld Gth	129.90	137.69†		
Fairmnt Cap Gth	140.78	150.37	- 1.16	
Fairmount Inc	150.15	161.10	- 1.25	
J Std Inc/Gth Inc	55.49	58.27	+ 0.22	2.01
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Emerging Markets	56.83	59.24	- 0.10	
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BANKS

[illegible]

BREWERIES

[illegible]

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

[illegible]

BUILDING MATERIALS

[illegible]

BUSINESS SERVICES

[illegible]

CHEMICALS

[illegible]

DISTRIBUTORS

[illegible]

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

[illegible]

ELECTRICITY

[illegible]

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

[illegible]

ENGINEERING

[illegible]

ENGINEERING VEHICLES

[illegible]

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

[illegible]

HEALTHCARE

[illegible]

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

[illegible]

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LEISURE & HOTELS

[illegible]

MEDIA

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
465	335	Abbott Mead†	454	...	2.1	27.5
319	260	Adscene	280		3.8	14.4
38½	22	Anglo Gp	36	...	...	14.4
7¼	1¾	Allied Radio	4¾	...	...	...
13	9	BBB Design	10	...	...	...
265	155	Barbour Index	265	+ 1	4.2	32.7
10½	4½	Bilsdale	7¾	...	...	...

MINING

[illegible]

OIL & GAS

[illegible]

OTHER FINANCIAL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
101	75	BWD	98	...	5.4	18.0
169	126	Baltic Fict	159	...	2.6	8.7
78	43	Berry Bch Nat	43	- 1	7.6	12.2
226	148	Biotec Inv	218	...	...	...

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
158	112	Brown Dolphin	153		4.9	15.9
685	525	Caledonia	679		3.1	20.5
2400	1500	Camellia	2100	...	2.2	19.3
22½	13	Cattele	14½	...	2.2	15.4
200	142	Caser†	197	- 1	3.8	17.4
35	16	Chrysalis	23	...	...	...
17	13½	EFG	16	...	3.9	3.2
89	61	EFT Group	78½	- ½	2.9	14.3
775	707	EFult	718	..	4.2	16.8
186	128	Excot	148	...	5.4	7.1
305	161	Garmore	232	- 5	2.4	25.3
379	255	Govett	284	- 2	6.5	4.7
1272	963	Henderson Ad	1250	...	4.5	21.5
260	162½	Invesco	241	- ½	2.5	16.6
48	43	Investment Co	44	..	6.4	...
233	198	Ivory Sime	231	...	4.1	17.2
248¼	170	Jardine Strat	173	+ 1¼	5.3	5.7
144	85	Johnson Fry	134	..	3.7	9.4
204	131	Lon Forfaiting†	199	...	6.0	14.2
182	118	Lon Scot Bk	182	...	3.4	18.9
182	153	Man ED & F	161	..	7.5	7.5
1353	953	M & G	1323		2.9	23.2
325½	224	MAI†	312	- 2	3.5	15.6
121½	78	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	117½	- 1	6.4	..
988	680	MAM	927	- 2	3.5	21.5
130	94	Nat Home Loan	95	+ 1	...	3.3
1775	1150	Perpetual	1743	- 5	2.6	18.9
773	515	Provident†	759	+ 1	4.1	18.6
330	245	Rathbone Bro	318		3.7	16.4
38	24½	Rutland Trst	35½	..	4.6	15.5
355	281	S & U†	304	...	5.3	9.0
133	105	SJP Capital	117	...	3.2	...
78	42	Towry Law†	60	...	5.2	...
371	302	Transatlantic	349	- 4	5.2	22.8
26	9	Tno Hldgs	12	...	1.8	19.7
25	19	Western Selborn	22		1.4	.

PHARMACEUTICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
910	425	Brit Biotech	880	- 18	..	...
345	103	Cantab Pharms	308		...	..
495	233½	Celltech	495	+ 2	..	..
325	92½	Chiroscience	257	- 10	...	..
111	31	Cortecs	101		...	
268	103	Fisons	264	+ ½	2.2	
871	587	Glaxo Wellcome	852	- 8	4.4	19.5
294	162	Medeva	281	- 1	1.6	18.1
719	273	Scotia	613	- 2	...	...
675	444	SmithKline	667	- 6	2.5	19.7
662	416	Smithkline Uts	657	- 3½	2.6	19.4
1210	840	Zeneca†	1182	- 7	3.0	24.1

PRINTING & PAPER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
142	120	AG Holdings	141	..	4.9	13.8
514	377	API	514	...	2.3	22.4
280	219	Arjo Wiggins†	235½	- 5½	4.0	10.6
48	31	Ashquity Grp	44		..	..
234	162	Aspen Comst	220		3.2	16.4
436	347	Bemrose†	398		4.2	12.8
3471¾	1675	Bowater Inc	2637½	- 103¾	..	..
414	260	Bowmer Ind	408	- 5	1.4	19.1
700	474	Br Polythene	690	..	2.7	15.9

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RETAILERS, FOOD

[illegible]

RETAILERS, GENERAL

[illegible]

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
269½	195¼	Fract Group	210	- 14	3.9	17.4
70	46	Gievest	69	+ 1	3.6	15.8
189	112	Goldsmiths Gp	188	+ 2	2.3	18.9
640	508	GUS†	563	- 3	3.3	15.3
308	179	Hamleys	305	...	3.2	13.5
73	25	Hampden Gep	70		2.7	13.9
175	125	Hse of Fraser†	151	- 2	4.6	19.5
89	63	Hughes (TJ)	64	...	5.2	14.0
168	95	Innovations	145	..	1.3	73.4
470	229	JJB Sports	470	+ 5	1.6	24.4
514	379	Kingfisher†	486	+ 1	3.9	16.2
133	100	Kingsbury Grp	133		2.2	18.7
385	208	Liberty†	338		2.7	31.5
305	184	Lloyds Chemt	228	- 2	5.6	..
147½	108	MFI	140	+ 1	3.8	18.4
451	371	Marks Spencer	427	- 5	3.0	19.0
645	500	Menzies (John)†	604	...	2.7	13.5
575	338	Moss Bros†	568		3.1	16.8
417	252	Next	402	- 4	3.1	21.9
54	27	OEM	30	- 2	..	..
95	34	Oliver (G)	34	..	3.7	37.9
325	243	Ottakers Ind	312	..	4.5	12.5
93	73	Partridge Fine	78	...	5.3	10.7
155	65	QS Hldgs	65	..	10.2	16.6
19	7	Rhino Gp	11		..	...
164	113	Rosebys	164	+ 7	3.8	19.0
120½	95½	Sears	106	- 2	4.7	16.7
24	11¼	Signet Group	13½		..	..
484	321	Smith WH	374	- 1	5.2	13.2
925	638	Sothebys	870	- 15	3.1	40.8
312	209	Storehouse	309	- 1	2.5	20.7
140	112	Style	119	+ 5	4.9	10.2
203	143	T & S Stores†	182	- 8	4.6	11.5
160	98	Tie Rack	160	+ 1	2.2	16.7
4½	1	Upton & Sothn	2½		..	.
598	424	Vendome	565	+ 2	2.1	.
35	15	WEW Group	16½	+ ½	5.3	11.1
67	35	Wid of Leather	44	...	4.3	53.2
191	155	Wyevale†	179	..	3.6	15.9

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
568	491	Allied Domecq	517	- 2	5.7	12.2
498½	350	Bulmer (HP)	493	- 1	3.0	16.6
137	99	Burn Stewart	133	+ 1	4.8	27.9
461½	352	Grand Met	436	- 2	4.1	20.1
536	404	Guinness†	503	- 1	3.5	15.6
445	337	Highland Dist	353	- 9	2.8	15.7
217	175	Macallan-Glenl	207	..	0.8	45.9
710	600	Macdn Mtn 'A'	640	..	2.1	21.4
672	532	Matthew Clark	638	..	4.1	
140	81	Marydown W	134	..	0.9	.
240	129	Taunton Cider	238	. .	3.7	23.2

SUPPORT SERVICES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
945	630	ADT	898	..	.	.
41	22	Alphameric	23	.	1.4	17.2
74	31	Auto Sec	32		.	9.8
145	107½	BET Ord	124	+ 1	4.0	15.0
178	130	BMS Rec	134	...	5.4	10.4
293	220	BPP†	288	.	4.4	16.7
199	131	BSM†	156	.	5.3	11.8
5½	1½	Black & Edg	4½	+ ¼	...	..
1100	500	Borland	1000	+ 37½		

[illegible]

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

[illegible]

TEXTILES & APPAREL

[illegible]

TRANSPORT

[illegible]

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
281	198	Sainsbury	230	...	2.1	31.5
269	196	Sagecoach	262	...	2.5	17.2
110	79	TBI	88	+ 1	...	...
713	418	Tibbet & Britten	443	...	4.6	14.3
241	184	TDG	197	...	6.0	13.0
128	76	Uglandt	78	. .	5.9	12.9
113	77	Utd Carriers	82	...	7.5	15.5

WATER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	443	Anglian	586	- 3	5.7	8.7
365	295	Mid Kent Hldgs	358	...	4.4	9.7
641	457½	North West▼	593	+ 5	5.4	8.2
1033	676	Northumbrian	1005	...	3.5	8.7
689	475	Severn Trent	653	- 5	5.5	8.1
2235	1695	South Staffs	2280	...	3.7	13.9
555	459	South West	509	- 2	6.7	7.1
731	517	Southern	689	- 11	4.7	8.9
558	456	Thames	518	+ 3	6.1	7.2
800	592¼	Welsh	765	- 7	6.7	9.1
109½	100½	Welsh Cm Pf	103¾	+ ¼	...	...
361	258¼	Wessex	343	- 1	4.8	9.8
677½	472	Yorkshire	628	- 2	5.5	10.0

Source: Finstat

● USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. ... No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

BRITISH FUNDS

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
106½	101	Treas 14% 1996	101	..	13.77	6.59
109½	104½	Treas 15¼% 1996	104½ †	...	14.58	6.51
107¼	100½	Exch 13¼% 1996	103½ †	-	12.79	6.62
104	103	Conv 10% 1996	103 †	-	9.66	6.53
100	97½	Treas 7% 1997	100	..	6.98	6.79
108	107	Treas 13¼% 1997	107	...	12.30	6.62
105	104	Exch 10½% 1997	104	...	10.03	6.45
103	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	103		8.47	6.81
117	114	Exch 15% 1997	114 xd	...	13.05	6.90
107	102½	Exch 9¾% 1998	105½	-	9.23	6.96
101	98	Treas 7¼% 1998	100½	...	7.21	7.04
99	94	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	99½ †	..	6.81	7.15
117½	114	Treas 14% 1998-01	115 xd	-	12.07	7.19
124½	120½	Treas 15½% 1998	121	.	12.73	7.18
114	109	Exch 12% 1998	112½ †	...	10.83	7.25
107	100½	Treas 9½% 1999	106½	-	8.90	7.24
116	111	Exch 12¼% 1999	114	...	10.68	7.31
110	105	Treas 10½% 1999	109 xd	...	9.56	7.31
98	89	Treas 6% 1999	95½	+	6.27	7.33
110	105½	Conv 10¼% 1999	109½ †	+	9.33	7.40
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
105	100	Conv 9% 2000	105	+	8.61	7.41
103	96	Treas 8% 2000	102	+	7.83	7.46
123	117	Treas 13% 2000	121½	+	10.71	7.52
111	104	Treas 10% 2001	110½	+	9.06	7.80
97	90	Treas 7% 2001	96½ †	+	7.23	7.68
111½	103	Treas 9¾% 2002	110½	+	8.85	7.80
102	94½	Treas 8% 2003	100	+ ¼	7.94	7.86
113	105½	Treas 10% 2003	112½	+	8.91	7.88
118	110	Treas 11½% 2001-04	116½	+	9.88	7.74
80½	78½	Fund 3½% 1999-04	79½	+	4.42	6.69
111	103	Conv 9½% 2004	109½	+	8.69	8.02
93	86	Treas 6¾% 2004	91 xd	+ ¼	7.34	8.03
105	97½	Treas 8½% 2005	105	+	8.23	8.02
111	103½	Conv 9½% 2005	109	+	8.68	8.06
128	119	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126 xd	+	9.88	8.02
99	92½	Treas 7¾% 2006	97½	+ ¼	7.94	8.09
101	93½	Treas 8% 2002-06	99½	...	8.02	8.05
122	113	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	+	9.75	7.97
105	97	Treas 8½% 2007	102½	+	8.26	8.12
135	126	Treas 13½% 2004-08	133	+	10.15	8.04
110	101½	Treas 9% 2008	106½	+ ¼	8.42	8.13
102	94	Treas 8% 2009	98	+ ¼	8.10	8.16
LONGS (over 15 years)						
86	79	Treas 6¼% 2010	83 xd	+ ¼	7.49	8.20
111	101	Conv 9% 2011	107	+ ¼	8.41	8.28
111	102	Treas 9% 2012	107	+	8.39	8.29
80	72½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	78	+ ¼	7.04	7.98
102	93	Treas 8% 2013	98	+ ¼	8.15	8.21
99	91	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	95	+	8.10	8.21
110	100	Treas 8¾% 2017	105	+	8.31	8.23
136	127	Exch 12% 2013-17	134½	+	8.91	8.29
UNDATED						
45	40	War Ln 3½%	42 †	+	8.28	..
31½	28	Treas 2½%	29	+ ¼	8.48	..
49	45	Consols 4%	47	+	8.43	..
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
213	201	Treas IL 2% 1996	213	...	8.31	3.25
112	108	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	111 †	...	2.11	3.28
177	165	Treas IL 2½% 2001	176	+	3.11	3.61
173	161	Treas IL 2½% 2003	172 †	+	3.26	3.64
115	108	Treas IL 4⅛% 2004	114	+ ¼	3.38	3.67
182	169	Treas IL 2% 2006	180	+	3.34	3.62
165	152	Treas IL 2½% 2009	160 †	+	3.41	3.65
177	157	Treas IL 2½% 2011	169	+	3.45	3.68
141	129	Treas IL 2½% 2013	138	+	3.48	3.66
150	137	Treas IL 2½% 2016	148	+	3.53	3.71
144	131	Treas IL 2½% 2020	142	+	3.58	3.73
120	109	Treas IL 2½% 2024	118	+	3.57	3.70
119	108	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	117	+	3.57	3.71

Lining up the available options for networking

Dom Foulsham introduces a four-page special report on advances in the mobile phone industry, with advice for buyers

From what I can make out, a lot of people treat buying a mobile phone like marriage. Men in particular *make the same mistakes* — pondering over the expensive models instead of thinking of the "contractual obligations" that soon become apparent. So it is hardly surprising that complaints about mobile phone dealers have come under the spotlight this year, along with the *divorce* rate.

With six separate mobile phone networks, the UK has the most advanced market in the world. Yet in August, the independent consumer guide *Which?* reported that at least one in four mobile users regretted their choice. Reporting on *numerous pitfalls such as changing* tariffs, methods of payment and unfair contracts, the report suggested that all too often "people make a big mistake when buying a mobile phone".

Is there a checklist? Depending on the type of phone, you will have to consider several things.

First, there is the network (Mercury, Orange, Vodafone and Cellnet, with the latter two offering a choice of either analogue or *digital networks). Then there is the* airtime provider (a company that "buys" bulk airtime from any of the four companies and then sells it to individuals); and, of course, the phone to use on your chosen network. If you opt to buy a Mercury or Orange phone, you will deal directly with the company that owns the network.

But what are you going to use the phone for? Work, emergencies, or chatting at the weekends? This is an *important pointer towards the* right "package". All of the six networks offer similar priced packages for different types of user, but they all have different products. Do *you think* Mercury One 2 One's free weekend calls are more useful than Orange's Caller-identifier features? Do you need to take your phone abroad? Do you need to send a fax from your notebook computer and mobile phone? These are the sorts of questions you are going to be *asked at the shop* counter.

Contracts can provide the biggest headache. Legally binding, they *can often be difficult to get out of if* you are unhappy with the service, and if you do want to change, the price can be high. "Forget about the phone. Look at the contract," says *What Cellphone's* Bob Tomalski. "Avoid contracts where you are tied in for longer than a year — the *industry standard* — and find out what happens if you want to change." According to Mr Tomaliski, a good contract will usually mean you can keep any "*administration charges" to a mini*mum when or if you decide to change schemes.

With six to choose from, decide where it is you will use the phone regularly, and how well any given network covers that area. A network will either be analogue or *digital*, meaning that your conversations will either be encoded digitally, the signal for supposedly better reception, or be transmitted in the traditional way.

Digital phones can offer a better signal but, unlike analogue phones, they will either work or not work for any given location. This might seem sensible, but sometimes the fade-in, fade-out alternative may be preferable to no signal at all in a remote area.

Be sure to check on the coverage of both digital and analogue phones in the locations you're likely to be using because there are plenty of rural and out-of-city areas where *mobile phones are equally useless.*

Good phone shops will have computerised maps showing which areas the networks cover. If you opt for a digital phone, you'll also have to decide if you want to use the phone in Europe. If so, ask for one that offers "GSM" (Global System for Mobile Communications), a system standard compatible with the digital networks of Cellnet and Vodafone. If you do not need these services then Mercury or Orange's *alternative network* PCN (Personal Communications Network) is the one for you.

Confused? Many shops have woken up to this confusion of queries on coverage by offering "user-friendly" ways of working out the best options. Sounding like a *character from Bagpuss*, "Topsy" is, for example, a touch-sensitive computer screen available at Peoples Phone that provides maps of different locations and reasonably fair indicators of how well the networks are likely to operate within them.

Opting for a digital phone does offer some helpful additions. Unlike analogue phones, digital phone conversations cannot be bugged, a la "SquidgyGate", and do not suffer *from the crime of "re-chipping"* — the way stolen or lost analogue mobile phones can have their electronic identities changed to false or existing users' numbers. Digital phones also offer "Sim" cards which can store as many as 100 names and telephone numbers, *as well as carrying the identity of* the phone's user.

Crime hasn't disappeared completely with the advent of digital phones. Mr Tomalski says a new *scam has emerged that* involves buying and using phones on a name and address taken from the phone book, thus running up bills at somebody else's expense.

After choosing your likely usage of a mobile, the places you need to call from and the sort of contract they each offer, you will be surprised at how cheap the myriad of handsets can become. What you thought might be the shopping trip from hell may become a marriage *made in heaven.*

The arrival of Eveline Carn's son Alex, now three, meant the export manager's mobile phone is proving even more useful

Stay in touch on the move

The benefits far outweigh a mobile's drawbacks, three users tell **Jane Bird**

Eveline Carn first acquired a mobile phone when she worked as an export manager, but it was after the birth of *her son, Alex, three years ago that* she really began to appreciate its use. "Lying in hospital, it was very nice being able to phone people from bed," she says.

She now finds the phone a great comfort when she is driving alone with Alex. "If I broke down on the *motorway, I wouldn't be able to* leave Alex alone while I walked to an emergency phone, but I couldn't carry him along the hard shoulder either," she says. "Now I can *ring for help* from the car."

Now that Alex is older, Mrs Carn takes the phone with her when she is out so that her babysitter can call her if there are any queries or emergencies. The phone also allows her to let people know if she will be late for a meeting. "*It takes all the stress out* of being late if you can let people know what's happened."

Mrs Carn uses Vodafone's Low Call tariff and is careful not to make too many calls, so her bills are fairly low. She particularly appreciates her phone's 99-number memory which means she can leave her address book at home, but gaps in Vodafone's coverage irritate her. "There are some parts *of the country where the signal* simply goes dead," she says.

Shaun Wooster, a builder from west London, uses a Mercury One 2 One mobile phone, and because *most* of his jobs are within the London area, he is not concerned that One 2 One's coverage is still restricted. What does frustrate him, however, is the poor quality of reception when he makes calls indoors in the evening.

"*I have to stand by the window* to talk, and if I need to move back into the room to check something, the conversation starts breaking up," he says. Because Mr Wooster is constantly on the move, the phone is ideal for keeping in touch with clients and suppliers. "I don't like asking clients if I can use their phone when I am on site, and I don't need to hunt for call boxes any more. I take the mobile *everywhere and would be lost* without it."

Mr Wooster's main complaint is the relatively high cost of the Mercury service — his bills are around £45 per month. "Although I have extended warranty, I had to pay £50 for a new handset when the phone was faulty because my old one was slightly damaged."

Even corporate users complain that the cost of their mobile phone service can be high. Richard Ayres, a marketing manager at Nortel Europe, the communications company, says: "Rental is not too bad but the calls are very expensive. Home users get a better deal than corporate ones."

Another problem is cloning. Using radio scanners, thieves copy the numbers and identification codes of legitimate users. Mr Ayres, who uses a Motorola car phone on the Cellnet network, recently received a *huge bill* for calls he hadn't made.

His phone is voice-activated and he can make and receive calls while driving. "It makes my job *easier and customers appreciate* being able to get in touch at any time." He can also pick up messages from his office voice-mail system and make international calls at preferential rates via Nortel's world-wide network.

Mr Ayres will soon exchange the car phone for a full mobile and admits: "Initially, I was worried about being *available* 24 hours a day. But if I don't want to be disturbed, I can switch the phone *off or use the call forward option* to pass calls onto my office line." And like most mobile phones users, he reckons that the benefits still outweigh the disadvantages.

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Do your sums and opt for the right deal

Nick Cottam looks at the pros and cons of the different tariffs on offer

Buying someone a mobile phone this Christmas could become the equivalent of giving them a puppy: it needs an awful lot of looking after. The mobile will have to be taken out regularly to earn its keep, and although the recipient did not pay for a handset, the hidden cost of *ownership could turn this* piece of Yuletide generosity into a financial liability.

If you are about to become one of Britain's 4.5 million mobile phone subscribers, you should do your homework first. Ask yourself three questions: "Where am I going to use it? How much am I going to use it? What security will it bring me?" Get these right, and you should end up with a *cost-effective device for keep*ing you on the end of a line when you need to be. Miscalculate, and you could be saddled with a contract worth hundreds of pounds a year to the network provider but of little benefits to you.

Where you want to use the phone will help determine the choice of operator and network. Vodafone and Cellnet claim about 98 per cent coverage of the UK's population on their analogue service with the option of overseas usage on digital GSM. Mercury One 2 One and Orange, the relative newcomers, offer digital-only options across a growing but limited area. They remain competitive on the *basis of lower call charges and* billing by the second.

After grappling with a choice of four operators and six networks, the question of *how often you want to use the* phone can be equally tough. For example, if you want to *make lots of calls throughout* the UK but not abroad then a Cellnet Frequent User tariff or Vodafone's BusinessCall would both be suitable.

If *you are operating* largely in the South East and up through the centre of the country, then any of Orange's Talk 15 to Talk 540 options may be appropriate. If you are making a lot of calls then Orange's free air time as part of the monthly package will almost *certainly* make it the cheaper option.

The important thing to remember when pondering *the* "use against tariff" equation is that the higher the line rental the lower the cost of individual calls and vice versa.

The important issue, according to a recent *Which?* survey, is that any new user should be *able to test the phone* for a trial period, because once you are locked into a contract which could easily cost in excess of £60 a month, it could be up to 15 months before you are released, including a compulsory three-month notice period.

The *Which?* report challenges the legality of a contract whose full financial implications can never be clear at the outset and suggests that a *significant* 25 per cent of *all* users are presently switching tariffs because they are dissatisfied. These figures are challenged by Ian White, editor of *the industry magazine Mobile News*, who says that "the research was based on erroneous information with the real figure more like one in ten". The rest *he puts down to* people switching networks and tariffs to find something which suits them.

If my experience is anything to go by, the most important measure is to plump for a network which not only meets your coverage requirements, but one which allows you to switch to another tariff free of charge if this is a better option once you know how much you use *your phone*.

The alternative is to ensure that the person who wants you on the end of a mobile this Christmas is also happy to gift wrap your first year's tariff.

How not to be a subscriber

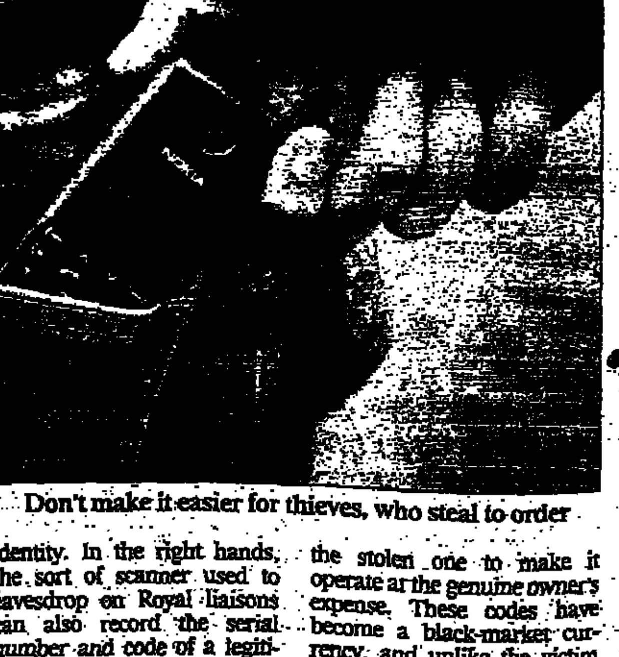
Users can take steps against phone crime, says **Glen Owen**

The theft of mobile phones has become a growth industry in the *UK*, and phone users are making life easy for the crooks. Even subscribers to the "secure" digital networks need to be on their guard.

Around 13,000 phones are stolen every month. The preference for compact *designs* makes it easier to leave them on a train or slip them out of a pocket, and for the uninsured subscriber this is more than an *irritation; having already* signed a binding airtime agreement with the service provider, they are no longer entitled to the heavily subsi*dised phones which lure* people onto the network. They have to pay the full price of the handsets, which can often run into hundreds of pounds.

Despite this, the Federation of Communication Services, which acts as the mouthpiece for the mobile industry, says that less than one in ten phones is insured and strongly urges users to cover themselves. (Some service providers, including Orange and Mercury One 2 One, provide a year's insurance as part of their packages).

The widespread use of ana*logue technology — barely 20* per cent of phones are digital — has made things easier for thieves. In theory, the phones are easily traceable after a *theft, as each has its own* Electronic Serial Number (ESN), a telephonic "fingerprint" which is revealed when it connects to the network. In practice, *most phones are sto*len to order and end up in the hands of specialists who know how to change the unencrypted identities and thus *render the sets undetectable.* "Cloning" has become the most feared form of altered identity. In the right hands, the sort of scanner used to eavesdrop on Royal liaisons can also record the serial *number and* code of a legitimate phone. The fraudsters then transfer these details to the stolen one to make it operate at the genuine owner's expense. These codes have become a black-market currency, and unlike the victim



Don't make it easier for thieves, who steal to order

Continued on facing page

[illegible]

Dom Foulsham reports on the latest advances in digital technology which allow your mobile to access information from a PC

We are now crossing the data line

First there was the mobile phone. Now the range of add-ons would make a superhero blush

Until recently the notion of a completely free-to-roam data terminal had remained the strict preserve of a superhero's Bat Utility Belt. But the advent of commercial cellphone-based data links for notebook computers has added an altogether new meaning to the phrase "Bat Mobile".

Until the emergence — in the last two years — of an extensive digital network, unplugging from fixed phones and going mobile had been a painful process. Because the first cellphone networks were analogue, they were not suited to carrying digital information at remotely useful speeds. The problem was rather like attempting to subtitle an American sitcom in Japanese: you could do it, but you would have to explain so much so slowly and so literally, that you would, so to speak, lose much in translation.

With Cellphone and Vodafone's new digital networks and the digital service offered by Orange, all the hard work preparing information for digital transmission has been done. Your notebook computer is thus practically talking the same language as your phone. (One 2 One customers will have to wait for Mercury to announce plans.)

Using a communications standard called GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications — Orange uses a similar standard) it is possible to send and, in most cases, receive faxes at rates of up to 9,600 bits per second (the speed of a typical fax machine). Curiously, sending faxes requires you to have a signal strength of a least three bars on your signal indicator — any less and you could suddenly lose your fax line — whereas logging on to most networks (WANS — Wide Area Networks) and the Internet only usually requires one or two bars. The reason is essentially that fax communications require higher compressed data rates than your computer.

For most applications 9,600 bits per second is a tolerable though *frightfully unfashionable speed*, although compared to fixed line data connections, where modems can run anywhere from 2,400 up to 28,000, *using data links for Internet* access will mean finding a little extra patience in loading picture and audio files. For sending simple messages the advantage of digital mobile phones is that they can undertake both speech and test messaging, can confirm that messages have been received correctly, and can pick up text messages sent when the cellphone being called *was previously out of range.* Known as SMS (or Short Messaging Services), Cellnet, Orange and Vodafone all have various differing *services on offer.* Orange, *for* example, offers message sending between phones completely free of charge. But you would be advised to check carefully with each network, as some of them only provide partial short message sending services.

Some phones, like the Nokia 2110, are designed to work well with digital message services and fax calling, *but many existing phones* do not. You are generally on safe ground if the phone is GSM approved.

Pricing at present runs on similar lines to the voice tariffs, although Cellnet are due to revise their charges for data/fax calls early next year.

Putting the superhighway not just "at" but "on" your fingertips, *owners of so-called palmtop com*puters like the Psion 3a and Hewlett Packard's HP200LX can already connect into cellular data services *given the right equipment,* but they are not cheap.

Siemens offer a way to log on to the cellular infobahn with their *appropriately titled M1. It has no* keypad or display and allows many gadgets with an RS232 to plug into cellular data networks. As to the future, the organisation representing the GSM standard is expanding the range of approved *"communication protocols".*

According to Syed Hussain, the product manager for Cellnet Data Services, the GSM group plans to *provide the cellular equivalent of a* standard for Public Data Networks called GPRS (Group Packet Radio Services) allowing anyone with the *right cellphone to connect into or* even broadcast to many other notebook or desktop mobile and fixed computers. In the next two years, we can also expect Package Data Over Signalling which could, for example, allow sending very *short high speed "packets" of data* across the mobile network to use in traffic information updates.

Since many current services are *also expensive, anything that can* cut down on the time it takes to send information is welcome. For some it may be good to talk but *better to interface. For the rest of us* however, talk is still a little cheaper.

THE COST OF DATA LINKS (inc. VAT)

	Vodafone	Cellnet*	Orange
BUSINESS:	Business World	Frequent Caller Plus	Talk 540
Connection	£58.75	£58.75	£35.25
Monthly charge	£29.37	£29.375	£117.50
Fax/data connection	incl.	incl.	incl.
Data fax calls			
peak	2.9p p/6 secs	29.375 p/min	16.45 p/minute
off peak	1.2p p/6 secs	11.75 p/min	8.225 p/minute
min charge	12p	1 minute's usage	charged by the second
international	same plus intl. Tariff.	same plus intl. Tariff.	same plus intl. Tariff.
SMS	*12p per message UK/intl.*	*not yet published*	*free (Orange to orange)*
Free talk time	-	-	540 minutes per month
HEAVY USAGE:	Metro World	Regular Caller Plus	Talk 200
Connection	£58.75	£29.375	£35.25
Monthly charge	*£23.40*	*£17.625*	*£58.75*
Fax/data connection	incl.	incl.	incl.
Data fax calls			
peak	2.9 p/6 secs	41.125 p/minute	21.15 p/minute
off peak	1.2 p/6 secs	17.625 p/minute	10.575 p/minute
min charge	*12p*	*1 minute's usage*	*charged by the second*
international	same plus intl. Tariff.	same plus intl. Tariff.	same plus intl. Tariff.
SMS	12p per message UK/intl.	not yet published	free (orange to Orange)
Free talk time	-	-	200 minutes per month
LIGHT USAGE:	*Personal World*		Talk 15
Connection	-	-	£35.25
Monthly charge	-	-	£17.625
Fax/data connection	-	-	incl.
Data fax calls			
peak	-	-	*29.375 p/minute*
off peak	-	-	14.68 p/minute
min charge	-	-	charged by the second
international	-	-	free (Orange to Orange)
SMS	12p per message	-	15 minutes per month

*(Data service pricing will be re-evaluated early 1996)

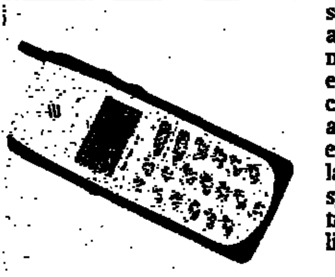
Digital is giving the old one-two

Andrew Emmerson

compares the benefits of two distinct technologies

Over the past three months more than 50 per cent of new connections to the Vodafone network were digital. At Cellnet the number of digital connections more than doubled. For the industry it indicates that mobile phone users are recognising the benefits of the digital networks.

Although cellular radio has been with us for ten years, the older analogue system was unable to deliver the enhanced services and benefits offered by digital technology. Initially, new digital technology also meant significantly higher prices but lower prices for handsets, and new low-cost personal tariffs have set in motion a seemingly unstoppable shift from traditional analogue networks to digital.



Motorola's digital Flare

"Currently business users are *migrating to* digital in droves, while many new users are also starting off this way," Mike Caldwell, Vodafone's *corporate communications* manager, declares. "They value the total security of conversation, the absence of call *fraud, improved speech* quality and the many extras." Cellnet's David Massey tells a similar story. "After Christmas we expect new digital connections to equal those for analogue," he says. He promises that existing analogue users will not be abandoned and insists: "Although the *transfer* to digital is filtering down to the small business and personal sector, the analogue market is still showing healthy growth." Vodafone's Mike Caldwell agrees. "Analogue is still growing on the consumer side. That said, analogue has little advantage other than the cheaper phones, and before long this price gap will be closed too."

It is certainly true that now tariffs are more or less equal, the only cost difference is in the handsets. Analogue handsets sell for £10 or less, although some of the bargain models are either old stock or else attract higher call charges. Coverage is marginally better on analogue but even this difference will not last long. Choosing the right system boils down to a small trade-off in cost, perhaps as little as £15.

"The future is most definitely digital," Mike Caldwell says. "Congestion problems have been eliminated and you can now hook up a portable computer to a digital cellular radio, even turn your vehicle into a complete mobile office."

Other features include a message display which works when you are speaking. Third-party service providers will also use this facility.

The international roaming facility means your Vodaphone or Cellnet digital mobile phone can be used abroad. Outgoing calls are charged to your home account. GSM, the digital system used by Cellnet and Vodafone, has been adopted by 156 networks in 86 countries.

Mike Short, chairman of the International GSM Working Group, says: "The GSM system accounts for 20 per cent of the UK's personal phone user base and 12 million customers world-wide. Digital is the only future-proof mobile phone."

The Highway Code outlaws talking on a mobile phone while driving unless a hands-free kit is installed, but converting your phone for use in the car can mean making costly adaptations to the dashboard. The latest device is Ora Electronic's personal kit with an adaptor, an earpiece and a microphone that clips to the lapel

on the crime network

of the original theft, the cloned user is unaware until the bill comes.

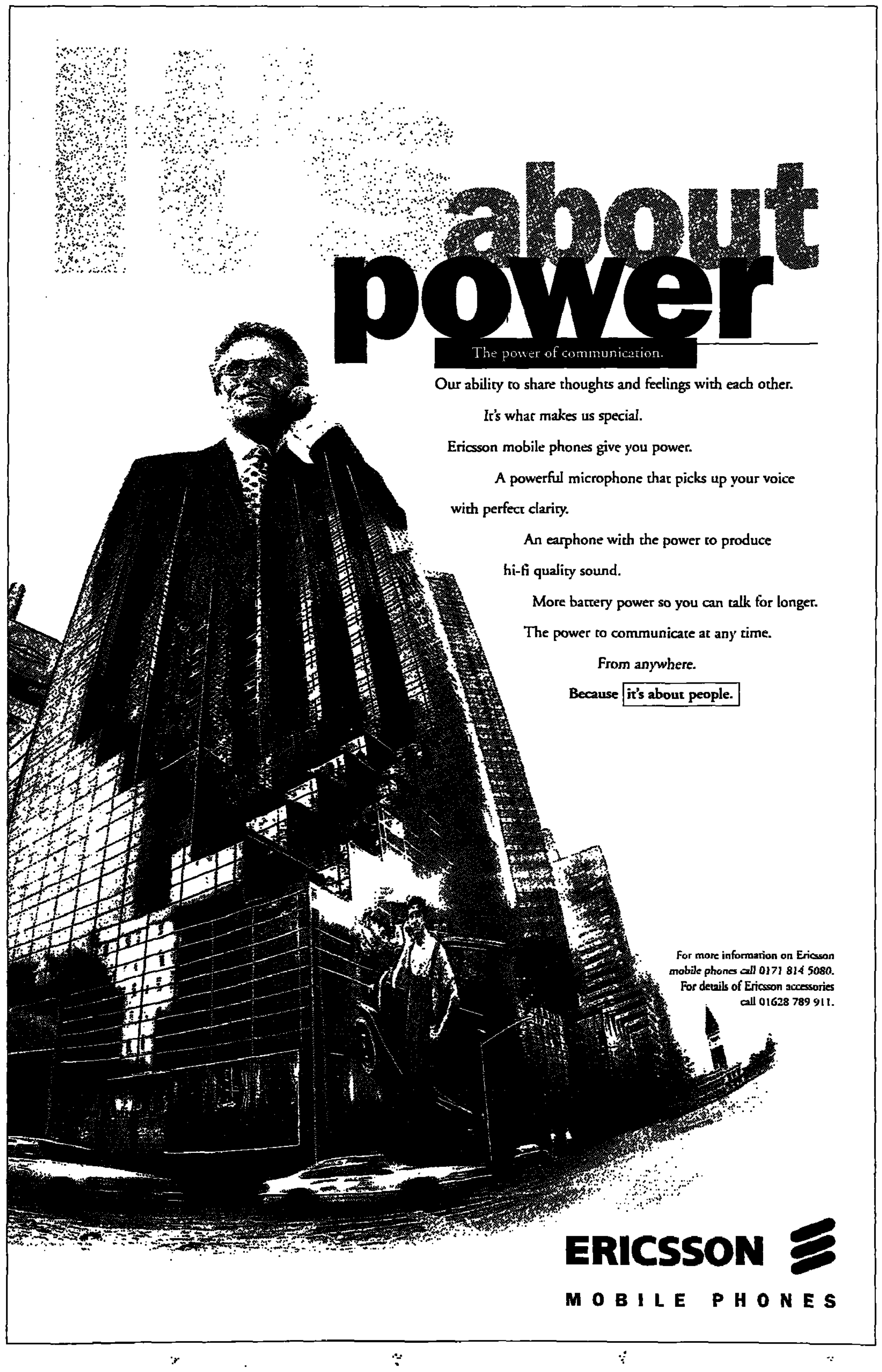
The Hutchinson Telecom *group, which operates* the Orange network, has its own investigators (many of them poachers turned gamekeepers) to *follow up reports of* fraud. A member of the team admits to a certain respect for the perpetrators: "Some of them are very good."

Digital phones are meant to offer greater protection against rechipping, as the codes are encrypted and held on a smart card unique to that phone, but hackers are busy working on this. Steve Gold, editor of *Mobile Phone and Security International*, likens the criminal attempts to crack the encrypted digital codes to the work of our wartime codebreakers at Bletchley, and says that the network is likely to be breached within the next month. Hackers in Italy have managed to clone details of the smart card using "magic phones" that scan for the vital codes and then make calls using the information. The phones can log the details of up to 20 legitimate users, allowing them to spread the fraud over a wider range of users.

The figures are daunting: in the year to August, reports of *cloning increased by over* 500 per cent, with around 4,000 cases every month, including an estimated 25 per cent of *MPs. The trend is for the* police to be passed the results of the networks' investigations. The police also have to deal with the knock-on effects of muggings and burglaries; nearly half of car break-ins in city centres are triggered by the sight of a handset on the car seat. Nick Mann points out that much of this crime is *preventable. "Not leaving* a phone in the car while paying for petrol would help. Security features, like immobilising pin numbers, *should* always be used, and some form of marking would give the police a chance of finding it. A postcode in ultraviolet pen is as good as anything."

The industry, which admits that the problem costs it — and customers — over £100 million a year, is gathering its energy to act. Vodafone is planning to introduce a system of alternating codes which change each time a legitimate caller uses the phone, *rendering* the cloned information redundant, while the FCS has prepared a crime-prevention *scheme focusing on tighter* policing at the point of sale, including the use of inspectors and an obligation on dealers to check the provenance of equipment, a measure announced by the Department of Trade and Industry this week. The Government has said it is considering making possession of cloning equipment illegal — *if there is time to pass* a Bill.

However, as Ian Cambell, managing editor of *What Cellphone, observes:* "while it is not illegal to buy the hacking equipment, there will always be a problem — especially when there is so much money involved".



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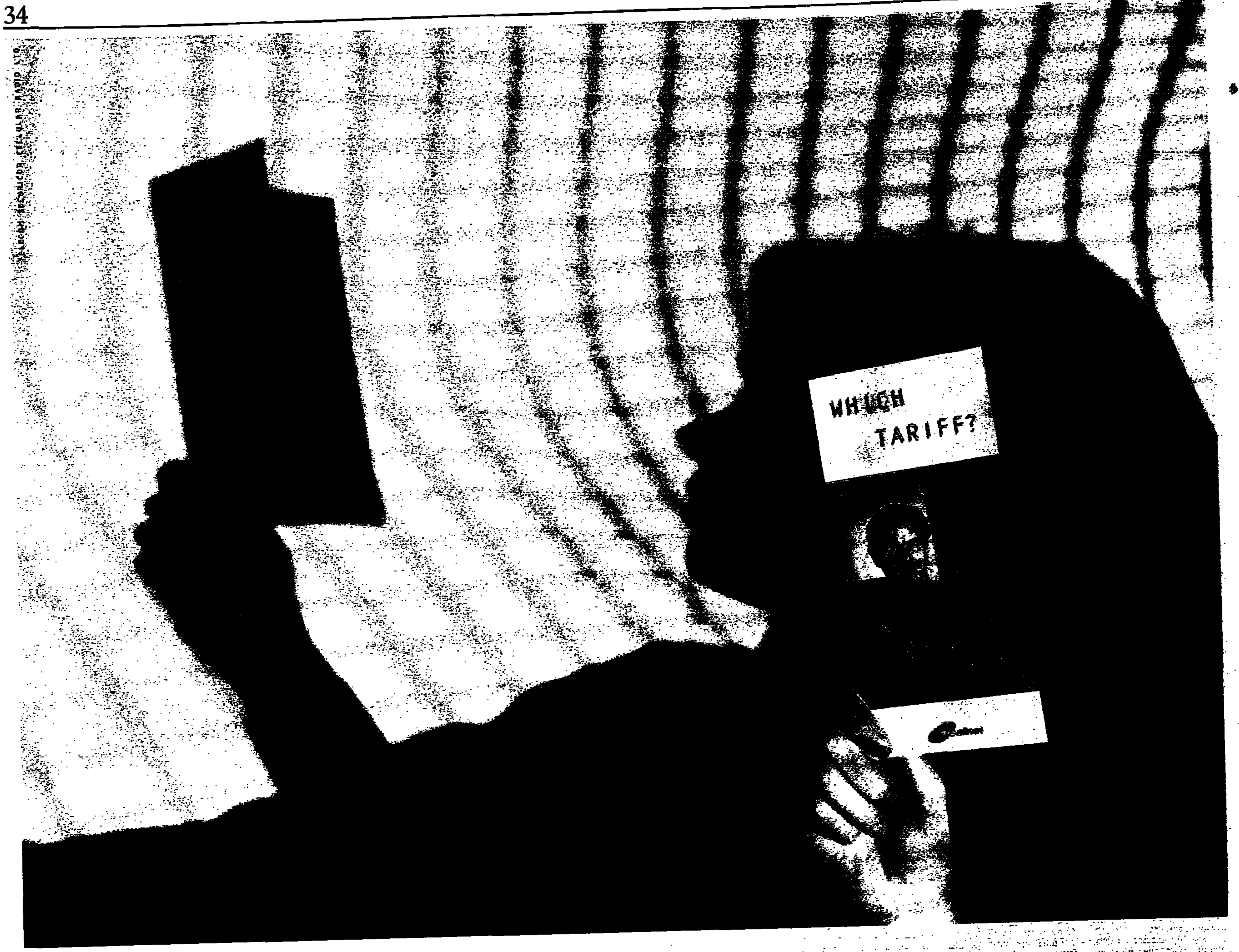

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FRIDAY OCTOBER 2

May I have a world in your ear?

John Stansell on the future of mobile telephony — and the billion-dollar gambles being taken on it

The technologies of mobile telephony — analogue, digital and satellite systems — are far ahead of both demand and supply. To technology junkies, *analogue is dead*, but it still accounts for most users. In the future, digital or satellite technology will take over.

In a few years, it will be possible to talk to anybody from anywhere. At least, that is what the PTTs and telecommunications *giants of* the developed world would have you believe. They may even be right.

There are two principal digital terrestrial technologies — the European GSM and the American CDMA approach. GSM allows a single channel to carry many calls by chopping up the signal on a time basis — each call is allowed a fraction of the overall signal's transmission time. This standard is formally known as time division multiple access (TDMA). CDMA *stands* for code division multiple access and achieves the same ends by writing, in a coded form, the digits that contain the signal.

GSM operates on four possible frequency bands — 900, 1800 and 1900 MHz and the satellite frequencies of the *future*. The 1800 MHz band is also known as PCN or personal communications network — Orange and Mercury's One 2 One systems are of this type — and the 1900 HMz band is used by the mainly American PCS — personal *communications* service. CDMA will operate in the 1900 MHz and satellite frequency bands.

Today, if you want to use your mobile abroad, you must have a GSM phone. Manufacturers are vying with each other to develop and deliver handsets with ever more functions, especially in their ability to link portable computers with fax machines and e-mail and Internet services. Vodafone is the undisputed leader in GSM systems in the UK. It has signed deals with 56 cellular networks in 42 countries. Cellnet has 31 networks in 21 countries. The user receiving a GSM call from another country pays for the *segment outside the* caller's own territory.

The reasoning is that if someone making a call does not know that you are in South Africa and calls your mobile, they should not have to pay for anything other than the relevant UK segment.

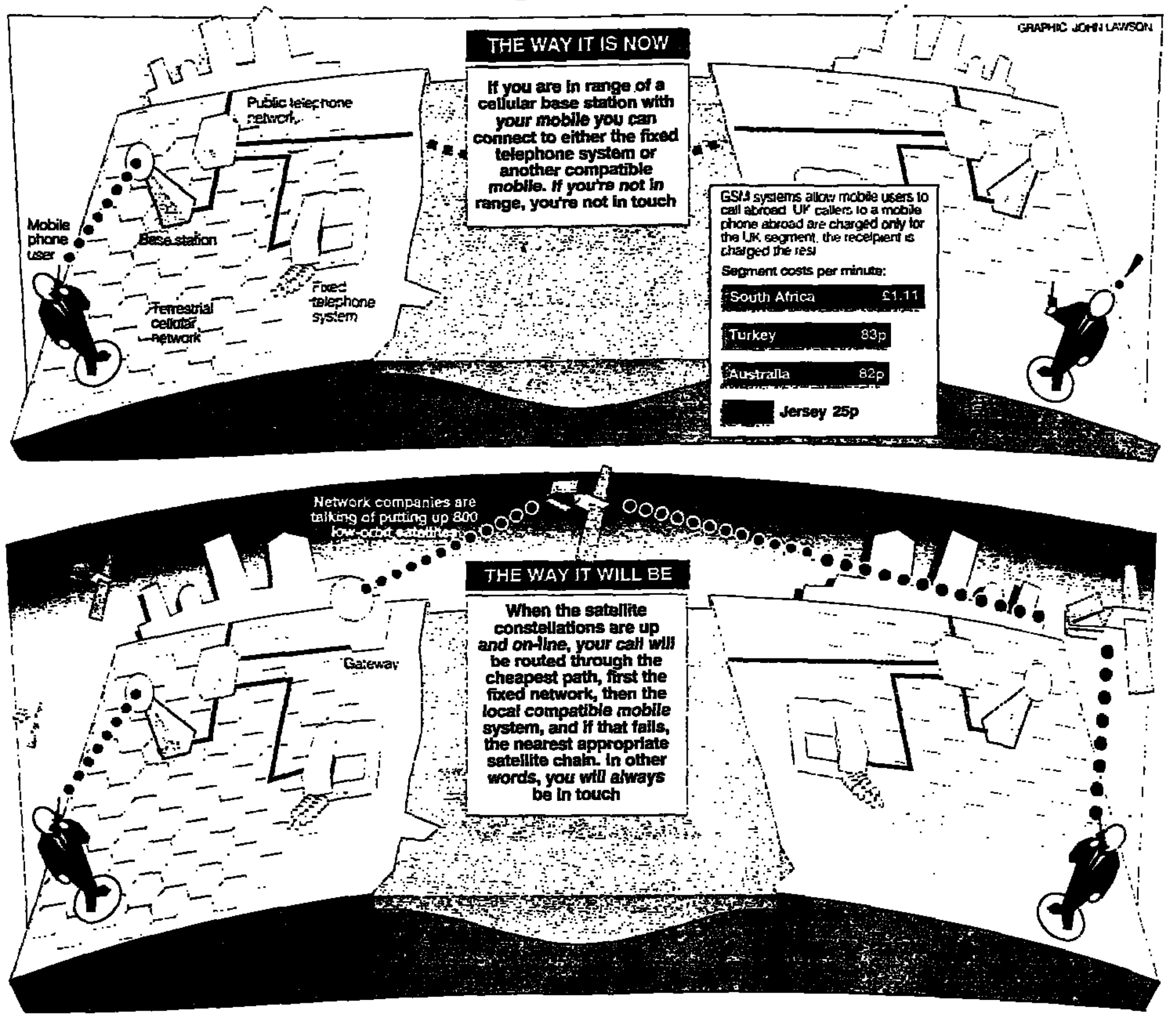
Until the recent telecommunications exhibition in Geneva, the GSM MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Association, which operates the European-based GSM standard, had not penetrated *North America. In other words, no* non-American cell phone would work in the US. But in early October, Mike Short, GSM MOU's chairman, revealed that four operators in the US had signed up to the GSM standard. They are Bell *South, American Personal* Communications Mobile Services, Western Wireless and Pacific Bell. Another, Omnipoint, has recently committed itself to the system. Mr Short forecasts that GSM technology will reach 85 to 90 per cent of the American population by 1997.

Mr Short dismissed the threat from the rival American CDMA standard, arguing that projections suggest that 100 million people around the globe will be using GSM systems by the end of the century compared with 10 million now. He claims that the number of networks using it will rise to 230 by 1998.

The problem for future subscribers will be whether the satellite networks are compatible with terrestrial ones. Of the main consortiums, Iridium (founded by Motorola) and ICO (formed by Inmarsat), have opted for GSM, *Global Star (led by Loral Corp of* New York, and including Vodafone) for CDMA. Teledesic (a joint venture by Bill Gates of Microsoft and Craig McCaw of McCaw Cellular Communications, although owned by AT&T since the *summer) is the most ambitious of* the projects, but has yet to choose its core technology. More immediate, though less sophisticated, is Orbcomm which has already launched its first satellites and will begin to provide a sat-fax system *within the next couple of years.*

Compatibility is important because the industry sees the satellite systems as extensions — not replacements — of the terrestrial ones. The logic is that if, say, you are in Australia, your call to Britain *will be linked in urban araes by the* current combination of a local cellular system and land lines. When you go walkabout, however, and get out of range of terrestrial calls, a handy satellite automatically takes over.

These satellite ventures are very big business. Iridium plans to launch 66 low Earth-orbit satellites, Globalstar 48, Teledesic an astonishing 840 and Inmarsat's new offshoot ICO 12. Each venture is costed in billions of dollars — Iridium $3.4 billion, Globalstar $1.8 billion, Teledesic $9 billion and ICO $1.5 billion. Their hoped-for revenues and numbers of subscribers are, if you will excuse the term, telephone numbers.


GRAPHIC JOHN LAWSON

THE WAY IT IS NOW

If you are in range of a cellular base station with *your mobile you can* connect to either the fixed telephone system or another compatible *mobile. If you're not in* range, you're not in touch

GSM systems allow mobile users to call abroad. UK callers to a mobile phone abroad are charged only for the UK segment, the recipient is charged the rest

Segment costs per minute:

South Africa	£1.11
Turkey	83p
Australia	82p
Jersey	25p

THE WAY IT WILL BE

When the satellite constellations are up *and on-line, your call will* be routed through the cheapest path, first the fixed network, then the *local compatible mobile* system, and if that fails, the nearest appropriate satellite chain. In other *words, you will always* be in touch

Mobile phone user
Public telephone network
Base station
Terrestrial cellular network
Fixed telephone system
Network companies are talking of putting up 800 low-orbit satellites
Gateway

The signals between the lines

There is no 'best' system, but there are several factors which can influence your choice

When it comes to service coverage of mobile networks, operators make impressive claims, but unlucky customers are *equally adept at finding* the holes in the networks.

Coverage statistics can look impressive on paper, but it's important to remember that these percentage figures refer to population coverage, not the *UK landmass, and there will* always be more remote areas without any mobile radio coverage (although driving to a higher point will often pick up some kind of signal).

Best coverage is with the *analogue* Cellnet and Vodafone systems. First introduced ten years ago, the operators have now achieved over 98 per cent coverage.

The four newer digital networks have yet to match this, *although they are all mandat*ed under the terms of their licence conditions to achieve 90 per cent coverage by 1999. All of them expect to meet this target long before then.

However, even a claimed 90 *per cent coverage does not* mean seamless or continuous service, as some users know to their cost. The root causes are the physical characteristics of radio propagation and the way in which the very short *radio wavelengths are attenu*ated or "absorbed" by obstructions such as buildings, large metal structures, hills and even dense foliage. Fill-in stations can and do alleviate these problems but the cost of *providing solid coverage* across every territory is hopelessly uneconomic and the networks aim for the best compromise.

Because each operator negotiates base station sites indi*vidually, their coverage pat*terns vary, and for this reason it's impossible to claim any network has the best coverage, although it is fair to say that outside city centres Cellnet and Vodafone offer better coverage than Orange or One 2 One. New users should never choose a network based on a phone's performance in a high street showroom if their *main area of use will be in* rural or suburban districts. Similarly, some phones are more sensitive than others and with car phones, even apparently trivial factors, such as where the antenna is mount*ed, can affect radio perfor*mance.

Lost calls are another aggravation for some users. The differing characteristics of analogue and digital transmission mean that mobile phones *will perform differently in* areas of patchy reception.

The best coverage is on the longer-established analogue networks; on these a fluttery call may "swish" in and out without being lost, whereas on *digital networks the signal is* either there or it isn't, and calls can drop out without warning.

On the other hand, crosstalk and other interference is much reduced on the digital networks, so selecting an over*all best system is almost* impossible.

Capacity is the final consideration. Though Orange lays claim to four times the digital capacity currently allocated by Vodafone or Cellnet, this re*fers to frequency allocation*, not the number of simultaneous conversations possible on given base stations.

Temporary problems occur on all networks when users at a given spot outnumber the circuits available. In these circumstances, people will either be unable to make a call or will experience poor reception because their call is being handled by a more distant base station. This is becoming less of an issue as operators expand their systems.

ANDREW EMMERSON

DIGITAL DIARY

ALL FOUR operators *are extending digital cov*erage continually; Vodafone has been installing 50 new digital base stations a month for the past two years. Of the two newer PCN opera*tors, One 2 One has a* more restricted range (London and the South East, the West Midlands and connecting motorway corridors) but it aims to reach 90 per cent coverage by 1997.

Orange currently covers 85 per cent of the UK *population, with 92 per* cent projected by mid-1996. An additional 1,000 base stations will be installed over the next two years.

All these figures relate to using *hand-portable* phones. Both Cellnet and Vodafone based earlier *surveys on the more* powerful car phones, making fair comparison impossible. Fewer than 10 per cent of Cellnet and Vodafone digital customers use car phones.

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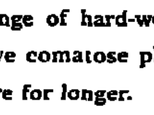

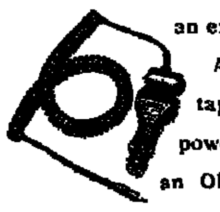

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Further particulars may be obtained from the College Secretary, St John's College, Oxford OX1 3JP. The closing date for applications is 1st December 1995.

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Application forms and further particulars can be obtained from: The Registrar, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6DB

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ARMY

EDUCATION

A single-sex success

Gerard McCrum argues against co-education in schools

A young doctor in action: would more state-school students make it into top professions if more schools were single-sex?

When I first formed the conclusion that single-sex education was best for girls, I was warned off by a friend. Such a view, I was told, was out of fashion. Yet the evidence is clear.

Girls in the independent sector, where single-sex education for young women predominates, have forged ahead at A level, whereas their sisters in the state sector's mainly co-educational schools have dropped behind.

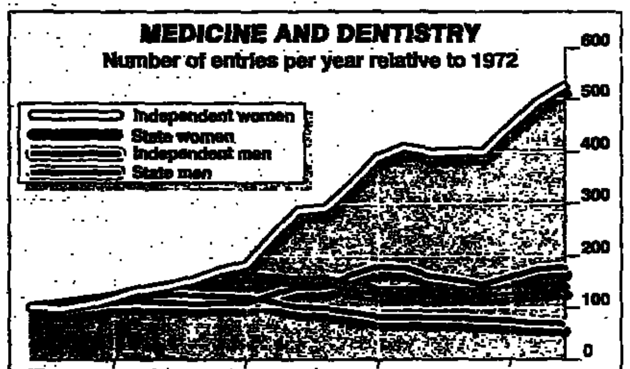
Over the past 20 years, for example, independent school girls have rapidly expanded their share of the places on prestige courses at British universities. For every 100 independent school women admitted to medicine in 1972, 522 were admitted in 1992. The losers have been the state school men, down from 100 in 1972 to 71 in 1992. Independent school men rose from 100 to 180 and state women from 100 to 142.

Universities Statistical Record figures (excluding former polytechnics) for 1992 show that numbers from each group entering medicine are about equal, despite the independent sector's sixth-form population being a small proportion of that in the state sector. It might be thought that smooth-tongued independent school candidates have increasingly talked their way into medical schools. The independent share of the medical entry has doubled from 1972 to its present 50 per cent. Yet it is clear that the change in the proportions of pupils with AAA or AAB grades at A level supports the decision of the medical admissions tutors. State-sector pupils led handsomely in 1972, but independent sector pupils lead today.

It is not just admissions tutors at medical schools who have been impressed by the product of independent girls schools. For every 100 students in 1972, there were 369 independent school female students entering science at Oxford in 1992. In the same period, using the same baseline, independent men rose from 100 to 164 and state women from 100 to 143, while numbers of state men decreased from 100 to 66.

In science at Cambridge, a similar pattern emerges. From the 100-student base, independent women now number 504, independent men 127, state women 115 and state men 66.

The story is the same when the overall entry is analysed in arts and sciences at all English universities, excluding the former polytechnics. Admissions of 100 independent women in 1972 rose to 437 in 1992. The other 1992 figures are 232 for independent men, 164 for state women and 108 for state men.



In the 1970s, in parallel with the growth of comprehensives, single-sex girls schools in the state sector were almost eliminated. This has caused a decline in state women's achievement at A level.

A decline was caused by comprehensivisation in the performance at A level of state men as well, but the state women declined most. It could hardly be expected that the comprehensive and co-ed perturbation would affect both sexes equally. The girls had to contend with co-education as well as the liberal ethos of the comprehensive. At the time the term liberal ethos was praise indeed, but today this is far from true.

The most systematic quantitive research, a study of Roman Catholic single-sex girls schools in America, supports the view that something special, attractive and successful occurs in single-sex girls schools that is not found in co-ed schools. The study, reported in *Catholic Schools and the Common Good* (Harvard, 1994), was mentioned in the recent report from the Headmasters' Conference Co-Educational Group and Manchester University.

Professor Alan Smithers, co-author of that report, argued: "Just because single-sex schools do better, it does not follow that this is due to their single-sexness." He added that single-sex schools topped league tables because "academic high achievers go to such schools for reasons of history and tradition".

The report also disregarded two other American books, *Failing at Fairness: How Our Schools Cheat Girls* (M. and D. Sadker, Touchstone, 1995), and *How Schools Short Change Girls* (a report by the American Association of University Women, Wellesley College, 1992).

It is sometimes said that sixth-form co-education prepares girls better for the real world. Again, American evidence, from George Washington University, does not support this. Female graduates of women's colleges did better than female graduates of co-ed colleges in test scores, graduate school admissions, number of earned doctorates, salaries and personal satisfaction.

The American Catholic study also found highly significant outcome differences, favouring attendance in single-sex over co-ed schools. The effects were found to be especially strong and consistent for girls, with positive effects also for single-sex boys schools. They conclude: "It would be one of the great ironies of educational reform if we are inadvertently destroying one of our great resources — a set of educational institutions especially conducive to women's learning."

It is time to consider a statistically controlled test of the efficiency of single-sex versus mixed education in our schools, both state and independent.

● *Dr McCrum is Emeritus Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford.*

Bruce Kemble meets a headmaster with a mission

Why I believe in assisted places

David Smith is an ardent support of the assisted places scheme but he thinks the Government should scrap the name and start again with "National Scholarships".

Mr Smith, a former chairman of the Headmasters' Conference who has just announced his retirement as the head of Bradford Grammar School, believes the present description of this passport to places at independent schools puts parents off.

He said: "The name sounds like National Assistance. It smacks of grants for the handicapped. The National Scholarship Scheme would have a better ring. That would emphasise that it helps families, not schools."

Mr Smith, who has spent 21 years at Bradford, will put his case to ministers and civil servants at the Department for Education and Employment in two weeks. He will also urge them to make it compulsory for local education authorities to publicise the assisted places scheme in primary schools.

The scheme provides means-tested state aid for parents who wish to send their child to an independent school. At present it costs £101 million and John Major announced a doubling of the places available to 60,000 at the Conservative Party conference.

Mr Smith said: "This is the moment to strike. The next time I go to Whitehall I am going to say we need to ensure that state schools tell children about this opportunity. Not a year passes without someone phoning me and saying 'I've just heard about this scheme'. I can see no reason why the Government shouldn't place this requirement on councils."

Mr Smith, the son of an upholsterer and a dressmaker, was one of the first generation of postwar grammar school boys in 1946. He has been a passionate advocate of the assisted places scheme ever since.

He said: "I know how much I owe to my education. My parents certainly could not have given it to me if they had had to pay for it. I have an objective to pass this on to as many children as I can."

He views his biggest failing as speaking without thought. He said: "This has been my biggest mistake at most stages of my career. My first headmaster, Leslie Scott, wrote on an early report: 'He doesn't suffer fools gladly'. But I have been redeemed by the fact I get on pretty well with children. That has always been my saving grace.

"There are Asian boys in this school whose parents' attitude to education, and their own, is almost exactly that of my parents in the 1940s and 1950s. I find them very easy to get on with because they have exactly the same goals for their children as my parents had for me."

He has been gloomy since David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, said the next Labour Government would phase out the scheme.

Mr Smith said: "This is completely undervaluing the contribution independent schools make to education. They talk about needs but the need is for a school like this that has served for generations the needs of clever children."

Many local authorities do not encourage pupils to take up assisted places, he says, because it is a scheme which implies that their schools are not up to scratch. And they believe it creams off the brightest pupils from their classrooms.

He believes that if Labour were to win power independent schools would become socially more exclusive and would lose a great many clever children. He said: "We would have to think hard about sustaining the quality of our intake."

He added: "What is wrong is the whole status of the educated person in society. Teachers must let it be known it is good to be a swot. Somebody said of Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, that he was always a nerd, the American for swot. If you want to make a million, you could start by being a nerd."

JOAN RUSSELL

David Smith: "Councils should spread the word"

ADRIAN BROOKS

Nicholas Albery with Stephanie Pieau, an apprentice on a course at Mr Albery's institute in North London

Don't forget the donkey

Jonathan Sale on the often bizarre requirements of apprenticeship

Wanted: smart lad or lass. Must have own donkey. Pay: £20 a week, plus accommodation.

That is not a small ad much found in local newspapers. Turn instead to a new publication entitled *Directory of Masters*, where you read that John Seymour, the self-sufficiency guru, is looking for an apprentice willing to help out on his Irish farm and also to pick up a few tips in the making of cheeses and beer.

This slim book is a sort of *Yellow Pages — Green Pages*, to be accurate — published by ApprenticeMaster Alliance. A distant relative of the old medieval guilds, the scheme offers apprenticeships in modern skills such as fashion photography and graphology. There are also entries for more traditional tradesmen such as a blacksmith (who promises "good ventilation") and a fishmonger (who threatens "6am starts").

They provide a much deeper introduction to work than the usual work experience, not least because of the often lengthy placements offered. For example, Aubrey Brocklehurst, a clock repairer, requires a minimum commitment of a year. Andrew Logan, "renowned sculptor and international artist extraordinaire", specifies 40 to 60 hours a week.

The placement at the Institute for Social Inventions involves 21 hours over three days a week for at least 12 months. It was at this intriguing organisation, a clearing-house for good ideas, that the concept was born.

Nicholas Albery, its chairman, was submerged in a flood of applications when he advertised for voluntary help. He found it heartbreaking that so much enthusiasm was going to waste. ApprenticeMaster Alliance was set up to harness it.

Robin Dean, who runs the scheme, has 60 masters (many of them, in fact, mistresses) on his books, each paying £60. They are inspected for safety of premises and willingness to teach their craft.

Apprentices, who pay £30, also need to be vetted. A work-experience graduate in my office was generally absent with unlikely excuses (how many haircuts do you actually need in a fortnight?) and it somehow made it worse that the youthful fibber had a theology degree.

Mr Dean plans to bring out the directory once a year, with newsletters in between as new masters clock on. One growth area can surely be prophesied: the nearest the Alliance has approached to the field of alternative medicine so far is a single psychotherapist, whose present apprentice has already been appointed.

Having seen my wife ploughing a somewhat isolated furrow as a trainee homoeopath, I know that a placement with a practitioner would have been a valuable addition to the instruction provided by her college.

What the masters cannot promise is cash. They are mostly small businesses. Mr Seymour is unusual in insisting that his apprentices bring a donkey or similar form of rough-terrain transport. He is also unusual in offering even £20 a week.

Terry Boyle, a camera repairer, is one of few to say that a basic wage can be provided. He has a four-year apprenticeship on offer, of up to 40 hours a week.

By contrast, Chris Schwartz, a photojournalist, provides no funds but stipulates a minimum expenditure of £20 a week on film and processing. Even so, this sounds a dream placement for a young snapper eager to watch a pro in action: a three-month term with location work.

A few masters are looking specifically for graduates but generally they mention qualifications that cannot be obtained from books.

Jerry Blears, the leader of a team of specialist joiners with "over 200 years of experience" between them, said: "No criminal record is essential." Chertsey Alternative Transport Association states: "Some knowledge of bicycle maintenance would be helpful."

One metal worker simply asks for "honesty" and another "brainpower".

Chris Jones, a publisher, would like would-be apprentices to take one piece of information on board. He said: "There is far more to publishing than lunching with authors."

● *The Directory of Masters 1995 costs £3.95 from ApprenticeMaster Alliance, 100 Southgate Road, London N1 3JB. The book is available free on the Internet at* <http://www.worldserver.pipex.com/nc/isi/master.html

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Law Report October 27 1995

House of Lords

Use of invention in bodily synthesis

Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals Inc and Another v H. N. Norton & Co Ltd
Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals Inc and Another v Penn Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Another

Before Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Lloyd of Berwick and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches October 26]

Where, following the grant of the patent for the drug terfenadine, it *was discovered that its anti-histamine* activity was caused by the resultant formation of an acid *metabolite in the liver, then not*withstanding that the acid metabolite had been previously unknown, a *claim to patent it lacked novelty*, since the terfenadine patent had disclosed how to make terfenadine *and that it should be taken for its* anti-histamine effect, and the inevitable result of following those instructions was to make the acid metabolite.

The House of Lords so held *in* dismissing an appeal by Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals Inc and *Marion Merrell Dow Ltd from the* Court of Appeal (Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor, Lord *Justice Leggatt and Lord Justice* Henry) ([1995] RPC 233) which had upheld the judgment of Mr Justice Aldous ([1994] RPC 1) who had held that the acid metabolite patent was *invalid and dismissed* two actions brought by Merrell Dow for infringement against (i) H. N. Norton *& Co Ltd and (ii)* Penn Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Generics (UK) Ltd.

Mr Simon Thorley, QC and Mr Andrew Waugh for Merrell Dow; Mr Christopher Floyd, QC and Mr Henry Whittle for Norton; Mr Alastair Wilson, QC and Mr Colin Birss for Penn and Generics.

LORD HOFFMANN said that *in 1972 Merrell Dow obtained* a patent for terfenadine in the United Kingdom. It had the advantage *that, unlike some other* antihistamines, it did not have the side effect of making one drowsy.

The patent expired in 1992 and other pharmaceutical companies then started to make and market terfenadine. Merrell Dow claimed *that their monopoly in terfenadine* continued by virtue of a later patent which still had another five years to run. It was obtained in the following circumstances.

After they had patented terfenadine, they *did* some research into the way it worked. They found that it passed through the stomach to be absorbed in the *small intestine and was* then metabolised in the liver. That was why it had no side effects.

They analysed the chemical composition of the acid metabolite formed in the liver and, since no one *had identified it before, they* patented the acid metabolite.

Merrell Dow said that supply*ing terfenadine commercially* was an infringement under section 60(2) of the Patents Act 1977 *because it involved knowingly* supplying consumers with the means, related to an essential *element* for the making of the acid metabolite, for putting the invention into effect.

By section 1(1)(*a*) of the Act, it was one of the conditions for the grant of a patent *that the invention* should be new. By section 2(1) "An invention shall be taken to be new *if it does not form part of the state* of the art."

The respondents had no *objection* to a claim to the synthesisation of the acid metabolite or to the product in isolation. The only respect in which they said it was not new was when made by terfenadine as part of the human body.

Mr Thorley realistically acknowledged that a UK patent lawyer's intuitive response to his claim was likely to be one of *incredulity. A patent was granted* for a new invention and in 1980 there was nothing new about *terfenadine. The acid metabolite* patent gave the person who was using terfenadine some informa*tion about how the product worked* but it did not enable him to do anything which he had not been doing before.

He said, however, that the 1977 Act overturned previous principles of UK *patent* law. *Under* the definition of the state of the art in section *2(2)*, it was not enough that something should have been done before. *It required that information* about what was being done should have been made available to the public. In this case, Mr Thorley said that *no* information about the acid metabolite had been made available to the public before the priority date of the later patent.

Mr Floyd's main argument had been that the invention had been *disclosed in the specification of the* terfenadine patent, a publicly available document which told one *how to make terfenadine* and that it should be taken for its antihistamine effect. The inevitable *result of following those instruc*tions was to make the acid metabolite.

The question was therefore whether the specification conveyed sufficient information to enable the *skilled reader to work the inven*tion.

Mr Thorley said that no one could know about *something* which he did not know existed. It followed *that if he did not know* that the product existed, he could not know how to work an invention *for making that product* in any form.

The prior art contained in the *terfenadine specification gave no* indication that it would have the effect of creating the acid metabolite in the human body. Therefore it did not contain sufficient information to enable the skilled reader to make the substance in that or any other form. It did not make the acid metabolite available to the public.

What did Mr Thorley mean *when he said that no one knew that* the acid metabolite existed? What Merrell Dow's research revealed *was that something was created in* the liver which could be given a chemical description. But the same *thing might be known under one* description and not known under another.

There was an *infinite variety of* descriptions under which the same thing might be known. Things *might* be described according what they looked like, how they were made, what they did and in many other ways.

Under what description had it to be known in order to justify the statement that one knew that it *existed? That depended entirely* upon the purpose for which the question was being asked.

The Amazonian Indians had known for centuries that cinchona bark could be used to treat malarial and other fevers. *They* used it in the form of powdered bark.

In 1820, French scientists discov*ered* that the active ingredient, an alkaloid called quinine, could be extracted and used more effectively *in the form of* sulphate of quinine. In 1944, the structure of the alkaloid molecule was discovered. *That meant* that the substance could be synthesised.

Imagine a scientist telling an *Amazonian Indian about* the discoveries of 1820 and 1944. He would say: "We have found that *the reason* why the bark is good for fevers is that it contains an alkaloid with a rather complicated chemical *structure* which reacts with the red corpuscles in the *bloodstream*. It is called quinine."

The Indian might reply: "That is very interesting. In my tribe, we call it *the magic spirit of the bark.*"

Did the Indian know about quinine? Under the description of a *quality of the bark which made it* useful for treating fevers, he obviously did.

It did not matter that he chose to label it in animistic rather than chemical terms. He knew that the bark had a quality which made it good for fever and that was one description of *quinine*.

On the other hand, in a different context, the Amazonian Indian *would not know about quinine. If* shown pills of quinine sulphate, he would not associate them with the *cinchona bark. He did not know* quinine under the description of a substance in the form of pills. And *he certainly would not know about* the artificially synthesised alkaloid.

The question was essentially an epistemological one: what did it mean to know something, so that it could be part of the state of the art? The quinine example showed that there were descriptions under which something might in a relevant sense be known without anyone being aware of its chemical composition or even that it had an *identifiable* molecular structure. That proposition was unaffected by whether the substance was *natural or artificial*.

Did the same principles apply in the law of patents? Mr Thorley *argued that patent law had* a specialised epistemology of its own. He said that for a substance *to be known so as* to be part of the state of the art within the meaning of section 2, it had to be known, or be readily capable of being known, by its chemical composition. No other description would do.

However, section *2(2)* of the *1977* Act did not purport to confine the state of the art about products to knowledge of their chemical composition. It was the invention which had to be new and which had therefore not to be part of the state of the art. It was therefore part of the state of the art if the information which *had* been disclosed enabled the public to know the product under a description sufficient to work the invention.

For most of the purposes of a product claim, knowledge of its *chemical composition would* be necessary to enable the public to work the invention. It would be *something* they would *need* to know in order to make it.

The terfenadine specification, however, enabled *the* public to work the invention by making the acid metabolite in *their* livers. The fact that they would not have been able to describe the chemical reaction in those terms did mean that they were not working the invention.

The *Amazonian* Indian who treated himself with powdered cinchona bark for fever was using *quinine, the active ingredient*, even if he thought that the reason why the treatment was effective was *that the tree was favoured* by the gods. The teachings of his traditional medicine contained enough information to enable him to do exactly what a scientist in the forest would have done if he wanted to treat a fever but had no supplies of quinine sulphate.

The terfenadine specification taught that the ingestion of terfenadine would produce "a chemical reaction in the ... body ... having an anti-histamine effect" and for the purposes of working the invention in that form, that was a sufficient description of the making of the acid metabolite. *Under that description* the acid metabolite was part of the state of the art.

Lord Jauncey, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill and Lord Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Bird & Bird; Roiter Zucker; *S. J. Berwin & Co.*

Court of Appeal

Investing not part of making electricity

Nuclear Electric plc v Bradley (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Schiemann

[Judgment October 17]

The making and *holding* of investments was not an integral part of the business of generating and supplying electricity by nuclear reaction.

Accordingly income from funds invested to meet future liabilities which would result from the production of electricity from nuclear energy was not trading income within section 393(8) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and could not be set off as a trading receipt against trading losses under section 393(1).

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the Crown from Sir John Vinelott, who, sitting *as a judge of the Chancery Division* (*The Times* February 28, 1995) on appeal by the taxpayer, *Nuclear Electric plc, from* the special commissioners had reversed their determination that trading losses of the *company* for the year to March 1991 could not be set against investment income of £93 million.

The taxpayer produced electricity from nuclear fuel. Its major costs were the back-end costs of storing and reprocessing the spent *fuel*, disposing of radioactive waste and decommissioning reactors. Although many of those costs would *not have to be met for many years* they fell to be regarded as trading costs of current production.

Provision for meeting those liabilites had to be made both when fixing the supply price of electricity *to customers* and when calculating the amount of each year's trading profit or loss.

That was done by averaging *the* back-end costs over the five-year period during which the fuel was used. The proportion of those costs attributable to any given year was discounted back from the dates when the expenditure was expected to be incurred. A rate of 2 per cent a year was used in making that calculation.

The discounted amount attibutable to each year was then deducted in ascertaining the loss or profit from the proceeds of the supply of electricity generated in the year.

In each succeeding year the amount of the provision was recalculated to take account of any increase in the estimate of future back-end costs and the amount by which those were discounted was *recalculated to take account* of interest actually received and by the deduction of one year in the discounting process.

Because of the extent of its liabilities for future expenditure the taxpayer was at the time insolvent but *remained* able to trade by assurances of support from the Government.

During the year to March 1991 the taxpayer received investment income from bank deposits, all of which was *required to meet* trading liabilities.

Mr John Gardiner, QC, Mr Jonathan Peacock and Mr Rabinder Singh for the Crown; Mr Graham Aaronson, QC and Mr Joseph Hage for the taxpayer.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT, giving the judgment of the court, said that the Act clearly contem*plated that* there were circumstances in which investment income of a trader might properly be brought *into* account as a trading recipt, but it gave no guidance on what they were. That question had to be determined in accordance with general principles with such assistance as was provided by the authorities.

The court referred in particular to *Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co Ltd v Bennett* ([1911] 2 KB 577); *Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society Ltd v Federal Commissioners of Taxation* ((1946) 73 CLR 604); *Punjab Co-operative Bank, Amritsar v ITC* ([1940] AC 1055) and *Bank Line Ltd v Commissioners of Inland Revenue* ((1974) 49 TC 307).

The income from investments held by a trade was prima facie *investment income; which might* in certain circumstances be brought into account as a trading *receipt. Whether it might* be so treated depended on the nature of the trade.

What the authorities showed was that the nature of the trade had to be such that it could fairly be said that the making and holding of investments at interest was an integral part of the trade. It had to be as much a part of the trade as the supply of the product or service to customers.

That was the decisive test and the various features referred to in the authorities were merely factors which helped in determining whether the test was satisfied.

It was not possible to lay down any single criterion for what amounted to an integral part of a *trade*. It required an analysis of the *nature of the* trade in question to be conducted at a relatively high level of abstraction.

The court referred *to an example* of an insurance company, by the very nature of its business being necessarily engaged in *the business* of making and holding income-bearing investments, and for the reasons given in the *Punjab Cooperative Bank* case, the same applyied to the business of banking.

It *was impossible* to say that the making and holding of investments was an integral part of the business of the *generation* and supply of electricity generated by nuclear reaction.

Two *features strongly militated* against the taxpayer's claim to treat its investment income as a trading receipt, *the second of* which was decisive:

The first was the long term *nature of the* liabilities which made it possible to carry on the business for a long period without *maintaining* any fund of investments at all.

The existence of such a fund at *any given* time was not due to the need to meet the liabilities in question but to the fact that no better use for the money in the business could currently be found: *it was surplus to the requirements* of current trading.

The second and more significant feature was the fact that the liabilities for which provision had been made, if liabilities at all, were *exclusively to third parties*, not to customers.

The insurer and banker invested *their receipts* at interest in order to enable them to meet their commitments to their customers. It was *that feature* which made the making and holding of the investments an integral part of their businesses.

The court could not accept that a trader who chose to set aside a fund of investments to meet those liabilities was entitled to treat the income from the investments as a trading receipt even if he dedicated the income to the discharge of the liabilities.

The fact that he held investments to meet them did not make such holding an integral part of the business.

The making and holding of investments was not an integral part of the business of generating and supplying electricity by nuclear reaction.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Mr C. Johnson, Gloucester.

Publicity as aid to paying for treatment

Regina v Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Authority, Ex parte B (No 2)

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, and Sir John Balcombe

[Judgment October 25]

Where a father sought to raise funds for future medical treatment of his child, who now had some knowledge of her illness, by collaborating with the media in giving full publicity to her story, the maintenance of reporting restrictions preventing the disclosure of her identity could not be justified if it were to result in denying her potentially life-saving treatment.

The Court of Appeal so held, granting the application by Mr David Bowen for the revocation of orders made under section 39 of the Children and Young Persons Act *1933* by Mr Justice Laws (*The Times* March 15, 1995; and by the Court of Appeal (*The Times* March 15; [1995] 1 WLR 898) and by the Court of Appeal on September 19 and 21.

The orders of March 1995 were made in judicial review proceedings in which by her father, as next *friend*, Jaymee Bowen, aged 11, sought to challenge the health authority's decision refusing to *fund further treatment. The orders* of September 1995 were made on the father's unsuccessful applica*tion for revocation of the earlier* orders.

Mr Bruce McIntyre for the father; Miss Anna Pauffley, QC, for the Official Solicitor.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the object of a section *39* order was not to prevent any report of a case proceeding in the courts. There were many cases, this being an example, of legitimate public interest and it was desirable that they should be the subject of discussion and debate. There had been much press interest in the present case.

The object of the section 39 restriction was to prevent direct or indirect identification of the child, since the recovery of a child afflicted by life-threatening illness was not promoted by the attentions of the media. That was particularly so where, as here, the child did not know the seriousness of her illness.

After the publicity attending the March decision an anonymous donor paid for the treatment and the *Daily Mirror* established a fund of £20,000 for further legal action, agreeing with the father for *they should have exclusive rights* to the story for three months.

Happily the treatment had gone well. *Friends, family and teachers* knew the identity of the child and the father decided it was right to *tell her of the proceedings.*

It was now envisaged that further treatment would be necessary *and that some expense* would be inevitable, and in certain circumstances that expense might be *substantial. The donor* was unwilling to provide further funds; the health authority, while provid*ing funds for maintenance* care and routine treatment, was unwilling to fund treatment which it regarded as novel and unevaluated. There was also an outstanding bill to the London Clinic. The father was concerned about meeting that *bill* and about the *future* cost of treatment.

The *Daily Mirror* had agreed that the balance of the £20,000 fund should be used for the child's care and they agreed to pay a further £3,000 if they were allowed to publish a detailed story about her which disclosed her identity: that was fundamental to their proposal.

The father had given an interview to a magazine, giving full disclosure of names and identities. He received £750 which he wanted to fund treatment and although the order was still in force the magazine had published the details he had given.

It passed his Lordship's comprehension how any responsible magazine could have done such a thing without making quite sure that the order had been revoked. The magazine was not represented and was not subject to any accusation and so he would refrain from comment.

The father was, however, concerned that if the magazine pub*lished the story with full details* and the *Daily Mirror* was not premitted to do so he would lose *the benefit of his exclusive publish*ing agreement with the *Daily Mirror*.

His Lordship referred to the unsuccessful applications made to the Court of Appeal on September *19 and 21 for revocation of the* section 39 order. The present application made by the father was based on the *simple* ground that he wanted to raise money to fund the child's future treatment; that the treatment had been beneficial to her; and that *publicity* was not harmful to her now that she was aware of some of the history.

The Official Solicitor, acting as an amicus curiae, questioned whether identification was necessary. *However*, that was the position the press had taken up and his Lordship had no difficulty *in understanding that a detailed* human story with *photographs* was more interesting to the public *than a bare anonymous* account.

In his Lordship's opinion it was difficult to require the father to rely *on the £16,000, since a relapse* would require a large sum urgently and it was undesirable for *legal procedures to be initiated at* that stage.

Plainly the court could not *arbitrate on the therapeutic merits* of proposed treatment. But the court did have the duty to protect *the best interests of the child*, of which it was in the final resort the judge. Speaking for himself he *much regretted the necessity to* exploit the medical problems of the child for financial gain.

However, he did *not* think that the maintenance of a reporting restriction could be justified if the consequences were the denial of treatment which might, and in the father's judgment would be of therapeutic and possibly life-saving benefit to the child.

He would accordingly order the revocation of the orders.

The President and Sir John Balcombe agreed.

Solicitors: Kerseys, Ipswich; Official Solicitor.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Free prescription bias unlawful

Regina v Secretary of State for Health, Ex parte Richardson

Case C-137/94

Before C. N. Kakouris, President of the Sixth Chamber and Judges F. A. Schockweiler, P. J. G. Kapteyn, J. L. Murray and H. Ragnemalm

Advocate General M. B. Elmer

(Opinion July 13)

[Judgment October 19]

By virtue of the EU equal treatment directive, a member state which had set pensionable ages of 60 for women and 65 for men could not provide that women were to be exempt from prescription charges at the age of 60 and men only at the age of 65.

Council Directive 79/7/EEC of December 19, 1978 on the progressive implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in matters of social security (OJ *1979 L6* p24) could be relied on to support claims for damages in respect of periods before the date of the present judgment.

The Sixth Chamber of the Court *of Justice of the European Communities* so held when giving a preliminary ruling on three ques*tions referred to it under article 177* of the EC Treaty by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court.

Regulation 6(1) of the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations (SI *1989 No 419*), *made under section* 83A of the National Health Service Act 1977, as inserted by the Social Security Act 1988, provides for exemption from prescription charges for certain categories of people, including, under paragraph (c), "a man who has attained the age of 65 years or a woman who has attained the age of 60 years".

On an application for *judicial* review, Mr Cyril Richardson, a retired man aged 64, asserted that he *suffered discrimination* on the ground of sex contrary to Directive 79/7/EEC.

The secretary of state contended that the prescription charges system and the exemptions from prescription charges were not matters covered by the directive as defined in article 3(1), and that in any event the exemption for per*sons* who had reached *pensionable* age was excluded from its scope by article 7(1)(a).

The questions referred were:

1 Whether the exemptions under regulation 6(1) were within article 3 of the directive;

2 If "yes", whether article 7(1)(a) applied in the circumstances, and;

3 Whether, if there had been a breach of the directive, the direct effect of the directive could be relied on to support a claim for *damages for periods prior to the* date of the court's judgment.

Article 3 of Directive 79/7 pro*vides: "(1) This directive shall* apply to: (a) statutory schemes which provide protection against the following risks: – sickness..."

Article 4 provides: "(1) The principle of equal treatment means that there shall be no discrimination whatsoever on grounds of sex ... in particular as concerns: — the scope of the schemes and the conditions of access thereto..."

Article 7 provides: "(1) This Directive shall be without prejudice to the right of member states *to exclude from its scope:* (a) the determination of pensionable age for the purposes of granting old-age *and retirement pensions* and the possible consequences thereof for other benefits..."

In its judgment the Sixth Cham*ber of the Court of Justice held:*

1 A benefit such as that provided for in regulation 6(1)(c) fulfilled two conditions which the court had held had to be satisfied for a benefit to fall within the scope of Directive 79/7.

First, being provided for by statute and implemented by regulation, it formed part of a statutory scheme.

Second, it afforded direct and effective protection against the risk *of sickness referred to in article* 3(1), in so far as grant of the benefit to any of the categories of people *referred to* was always conditional on materialisation of the risk in question.

Moreover, *in view of the fun*damental importance of the principle of equal treatment and the aim of Directive 79/7, a system of benefits could not be excluded from the scope of the directive simply because it did not strictly form part of national security rules.

Accordingly, the fact, relied on by the United Kingdom, that the exemption from prescription charges was provided for in the National Health Service Act 1977 *did not affect the court's conclusion* on the first question.

2 It was not disputed that a national rule such as regulation 6(1)(c) involved direct discrimination on the ground of sex in as much as women were exempt from prescription charges at 60 but men only at 65. Those age limits corresponded to the *statutory* pensionable ages for men and women laid down in the United Kingdom for the grant of old-age and retirement pensions.

In Case C-328/91 *Thomas v Chief Adjudication Officer* (*The Times* April 5, 1993; [1993] QB 747; [1993] ECR I-1247) the court held that where, pursuant to article 7(1)(a) of Directive *79/7*, a member *state* prescribed different retirement ages for men and women for the *purposes of granting old-age and* retirement pensions, the scope of the permitted derogation defined by *the words* "possible consequences thereof for other benefits" in article 7(1)(a) was limited to forms of discrimination existing under the other benefit schemes which were necessarily and objectively linked to the difference in *retirement* age.

That was so where the discrimination was objectively necessary in order to avoid disturbing the financial equilibrium of the social security system or to ensure coherence between the retirement pension scheme and other benefit schemes: see *Thomas* and Case C-92/94 *Graham v Secretary of State for Social Security* (*The Times* September 25).

The grant of benefits under non-contributory *schemes to persons* in respect of whom certain risks had materialised where that occurred *without reference to their entitle*ment to an old-age pension by virtue of contribution periods completed by them, had no direct influence on the financial equilibrium of contributory pension schemes: see *Thomas* (paragraph 14).

Also, there was in the present case an inverse relationship between entitlement to the benefit constituted by exemption from prescription charges under regulation 6(1)(c) and the payment of national insurance contributions, in as much as it was only once a person had reached pensionable age and was no longer able to pay national insurance contributions that he or she was exempt from prescription charges under that provision.

That being so, the removal of the discrimination would not affect the financial equilibrium of the pension system.

That conclusion could *not* be affected by the mere fact that extending entitlement to exemption from prescription charges to men who had reached the age of 60 would increase the burden borne by the state in the funding of its national health system.

It was settled law that, in exercising their powers under articles 117 and 118 of the EC Treaty to define their social policy in the framework of the close co-operation to be promoted by the Commission, the member states were at liberty to define the nature and extent of measures of social protection, including those relating to social security, and the way in which they were implemented.

They *could* also *take* measures, in order to control their social expenditure, which had the effect of withdrawing *social* security benefits from certain categories of persons, provided that those measures were compatible *with the* principle of equal treatment between men and women.

Therefore, the discrimination at issue was not objectively necessary to ensure coherence between the retirement pension system and the system provided for in regulation 6(1)(c) of the 1989 Regulations.

Although the fact that the *elderly* would generally incur more prescription charges than younger *people* at a time *when they would* normally have less disposable income *might* provide some jus*tification for exempting them from* prescription charges above a certain age, that consideration did not *require the benefit to be granted* at statutory pensionable age, and therefore at different ages for men and women.

Just as a woman who had reached the statutory pensionable age was entitled to continue to *pursue her occupational activities* beyond that age and might thus find herself in the same situation as *a man of the same* age who was still a member of the working population, a man might draw a *retirement* pension *before he had* reached statutory pensionable age and thus find himself in the same situation as a woman of the same age who was drawing the retirement pension to which she was entitled.

Accordingly, a form of discrimination such as that at issue was not necessarily linked to *the difference between the pension*able ages for men and women and, therefore, was not covered by the derogation laid down by article 7(1)(a) of the directive.

3 The court had consistently held that the interpretation which it gave to a *rule* of Community law in exercising its jurisdiction under article 177 of the Treaty clarified and defined where necessary the meaning and scope of that rule as it must be, or ought to have been, understood and applied from the time of its entry into force.

It followed that the rule as so interpreted must be applied by the courts even to legal relationships arising and established before the judgment ruling on the request for interpretation, provided that in other respects the conditions en*abling* an action relating to the application of that rule to be brought before the courts having jurisdiction were satisfied.

In view of those principles, it was only exceptionally that the court might, in application of a general principle of legal certainty inherent in the Community legal order, be moved to restrict the possibility for any person concerned of relying on the provisions *thus* interpreted with a view to calling in question legal relationships established in good faith.

In the present case there was no factor to justify a derogation from the principle that a ruling on the *interpretation* of Community *law* took effect from the date on which the rule interpreted entered into force.

In requesting that the effect of the judgment be limited in time, *the United Kingdom could not rely* on the financial consequences which it was liable to entail or on the consideration *that the facts on* which any claims would be based would often be difficult, if not impossible, to establish.

The financial consequences which might ensue for a member state from a preliminary ruling had never in themselves justified limiting the temporal effect of such a ruling.

Furthermore, the burden of proof normally lay on the person relying on the facts *alleged, so that* any difficulties which a claimant might have in that regard would in any event *be prejudicial to his case.*

On those grounds the European Court of Justice (Sixth Chamber) ruled:

1 Article 3(1) of Directive 79/7 was to be interpreted as meaning that a system such as that established by regulation *6(1) of* the 1989 Regulations, exempting various categories of persons, in particular *certain* old people, from prescription charges, fell within the scope of the directive.

2 Article 7(1)(a) of the directive did not allow a member *state which*, pursuant to that provision, had set the pensionable age for women at 60 and *for men at 65*, also to provide that women were to be exempt from prescription charges at the age *of 60 and* men only at the age of 65.

3 There was no reason to limit the *temporal* effect of the present judgment, so that the direct effect of article 4(1) of the directive could be *relied on* to support claims for damages in respect *of* periods prior to the date of the judgment by *persons* who had not brought legal proceedings or made an equivalent claim prior to that date.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO ABAYOMI OGUNNIFODO
TAKE NOTICE that an Action has been commenced against you in the High Court Chancery Division CH 1995 H 3673 by MANGALA HETTIARACHCHI of 307 Romford Road, Forest Gate, London E7 9HA in which the Plaintiff's claim is for transfer to herself of the property known as Flat G 366/372 Green Street, London E13 (Title Number EGL 270657) which was transferred to the Defendant on the 12th September 1991 costs and other relief.
AND that it has been ordered that Service of the Originating Summons in the said Action on you be effected by this advertisement.
AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 28 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication acknowledge service of the said Originating Summons by completing a prescribed form of acknowledgement of service which may be obtained on request from the Solicitors whose name and address appear below otherwise judgement may be entered against you. MANGALA & CO. 307 ROMFORD ROAD, FOREST GATE, LONDON E7 9HA.

TO: Marcus Denby whose last known address is 24 Cumberland Terrace Mews, London NW1 4HR
Take Notice that by an Originating Application issued in the Central London County Court under Case Number CL466906 and dated the 7th November 1994 in a matter between The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland (Applicant) and you the said Marcus Denby (Respondent), the Applicant seeks an Order from the Court that your holding of 2780 shares in Williamson Tea Holdings Plc be sold.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the said Application will be heard by the District Judge of the said Court sitting in Chambers at 13-14 Park Crescent, London W1N 3PD on the 28th November 1995 at 10.00 am with time estimate 30 minutes it having been ordered that service of the said proceedings by means of this advertisement be deemed to be good and sufficient service upon you. You may obtain a copy of the Originating Application and Affidavit in support from the said Court at 13-14 Park Crescent, London W1N 3PD or from the Applicant's solicitors namely Messrs Harris Rosenblatt & Kramer of 26/28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE reference MB/2300/023/1. Telephone number 0171 242 3254.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if the said Marcus Denby fail to attend the hearing mentioned above the Court may make such Order as it shall think fit.

LEGAL NOTICES

BRAMLEY HOME CARE LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Levy Gee, 66 Wigmore Street, London, W1H 0HQ on 3rd November 1995 at 10.00 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Section 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
In accordance with Section 98(2)(b) a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge at Levy Gee, 7th Floor, Wettern House, 56 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR0 0XH, on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.
Dated this 20th day of October 1995
J Bracey, Director.

CATTO ANIMATION LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 20th November 1995 to send in their full forenames and surname, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned. J J Schapira, ACA, of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 23rd day of October 1995
J J SCHAPIRA, Liquidator.

CATTO ANIMATION LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
The Insolvency Act 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, J J Schapira, ACA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co. PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 23rd October 1995.
All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated this 23rd October 1995
J J SCHAPIRA ACA, Liquidator.

Event Wear (Europe) Limited
Registered Number: 01214811.
Former Company name: Harry Whittaker Limited. Trading name: Event Wear (Europe) Limited. Nature of Business: Clothing manufacturers agents. Trade Classification: 13. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 23 October 1995. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: BIC International Credit Plc. Nature of instrument: Debenture dated 20 November 1992 over the whole of the assets of the company. Names of persons appointed: Brian R A Callaghan and Katharine J Rutherford both of Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London WC1B 5LF. (Office Holder No 1862 and 8610). Joint Administrative Receivers.

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MINERVA DECORATORS SUPPLIES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-On-Sea, Essex SS1 2EG on 3rd November 1995 at 2.30 p.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(A) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Cotham & Fry, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-On-Sea, Essex SS1 2EG is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated the 19th October 1995
By order of the Board
Ronald H Collier, Director.

IN THE MATTER OF SERVODATA & CO LIMITED
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company convened under the provisions of S.98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, and held on 23 October 1995, I, Joan Yvonne Venvil, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5UU was duly appointed Liquidator of the company.
J Y Venvil, Liquidator
Dated this twenty fourth day of October 1995.

The Insolvency Act 1986
W H MAYES & SON (WINDSOR) LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that John Hill and Martin Fishman, Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 3ED were appointed Joint Liquidators of the said Company by the members on 17th October 1995.
Dated this 20th October 1995.
JOHN HILL & MARTIN FISHMAN, Liquidators.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
BRISTOL DISTRICT REGISTRY
1995 No 2670
IN THE MATTER OF BRANDON HIRE PLC
AND
THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a petition was on 19th October 1995 presented to Her Majesty's Court of Justice for the confirmation of a cancellation of the amount of £4,000,000 standing to the credit of the share premium account AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN That the said petition is directed to be heard before one of the Chancery judges at The Guildhall, Small Street, Bristol on Thursday, 16th November 1995. ANY creditor or shareholder of the said company desiring to oppose the making of an order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by counsel for that purpose. Copy of the said petition will be furnished to any person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 20th day of October 1995.
Messrs Burges Salmon, Narrow Quay House, Prince Street, Bristol, BS1 4AH.
Ref: CEB/RAB/529160
Tel. 0117 939 2000

LONDON & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS PLC 00478285
LONDON & EUROPEAN PROPERTY HOLDINGS LIMITED 01111798
HENSCHER (FURNITURE TRADES) PLC 00311100
(ALL IN CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE COMPANIES
On 19 October 1995 the above named companies were placed in creditors' voluntary liquidation and Michael David Gercke of Price Waterhouse, Bridge Gate, 55/57 High Street, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1RX has been appointed liquidator.
Creditors of the above named companies are requested to send details in writing of their claims against the companies to the liquidator at the above address.
Claims need not be in any particular form, but creditors wishing to claim VAT bad debt relief are requested to complete the form issued by the liquidator. The liquidator reserves his right to require a creditor to support his or her claim by affidavit.
Dated 23 October 1995
M D Gercke, liquidator.

No. 3244 OF 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF TOTAL CONCEPT (FLEXOGRAPHIC) LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 136 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 11th day of September 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Capital of the above named Company from £100,000 to £60,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before His Honour Judge Maddocks sitting as a Judge of the High Court of Justice at Leeds on Friday the 17th day of November 1995 at 10.30 o'clock.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished for any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED the 4th day of October 1995
IRWIN MITCHELL Solicitors
146 West Street, SHEFFIELD S1 1SW
Ref: PGB/SCB.

No. 005753 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER of de JERSEY & CO. LIMITED
- and -
IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of The High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 18th October 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-mentioned Company from £2,000,000 to £20,000 and the Minute approved by the Court shewing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 20th October 1995.
Dated this 27th day of October 1995
Messrs. Hunters, (Ref: 826)
9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3QN
Solicitors for the above named Company.

مكتبة الامل

THEATRE 1

At the National the Tara Arts staging of *Cyrano* is visually pretty but dramatically feeble

THEATRE 2

. . . and poor verse speaking makes a hash of a promising *Macbeth* at the Tricycle

THE TIMES ARTS

DANCE

The tinkle of Scarlatti is the inspiration for Siobhan Davies's new *The Art of Touch*

TOMORROW

How good is *Jolson*? Benedict Nightingale visits the latest West End musical biography

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** is puzzled by a bizarre Indian adaptation of *Cyrano*; plus Shakespeare's verse taken at high speed

Hapless loser by a long nose

Tara Arts is Britain's *most* enterprising Asian theatre company and has often acknowledged its dual identity by giving European classics an Eastern setting. Molière's *Tartuffe* became a "faking fakir", plying his tricks in India, and works as different as Gogol's *Government Inspector* and Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida* entered its repertoire. After them, Rostand's *Cyrano* would seem no great challenge, especially as Tara's artistic director, Jatinder Verma, has imported some high-powered help from India and persuaded Ranjit Bolt to do the versifying.

But this time the company has made a surprising mistake. It should surely have been possible to find Indian counterparts for Rostand's tale of the soldier-poet with the regrettable hooter. The subcontinent cannot have lacked conflicts between princes and invaders for Cyrano to fight. Instead, Tara has made a choice roughly equivalent to a Dutch *Henry V* that involves the takeover of a tulip garden by British rose growers.

Cyrano is Cyrano Danmull Barchha, a bearded, black-turbaned fellow with a nose more like a duck's beak than the usual torpedo. That is fine. But he is *not* a soldier at all. He is a would-be thespian forced by his looks to become a prompter and part-time writer for a Lucknow company in the 1930s. His fellow Gascons are "the backstage crew". It hardly needs saying that this reduces his stature and leads to some convoluted problems.

What is to happen when the Gascons go to Arras to confront the Spaniards? The bizarre solution is that the theatre company's manager insists on moving it to Bombay, where an Indian film industry is starting. All right, how does Tara cope with the near-starvation that then afflicts Rostand's soldiers? These reasonably well-to-do theatre folk simply announce they are very hungry. And what of Cyrano's heroics at the front? Those are ignored.

Cyrano
Cottesloe

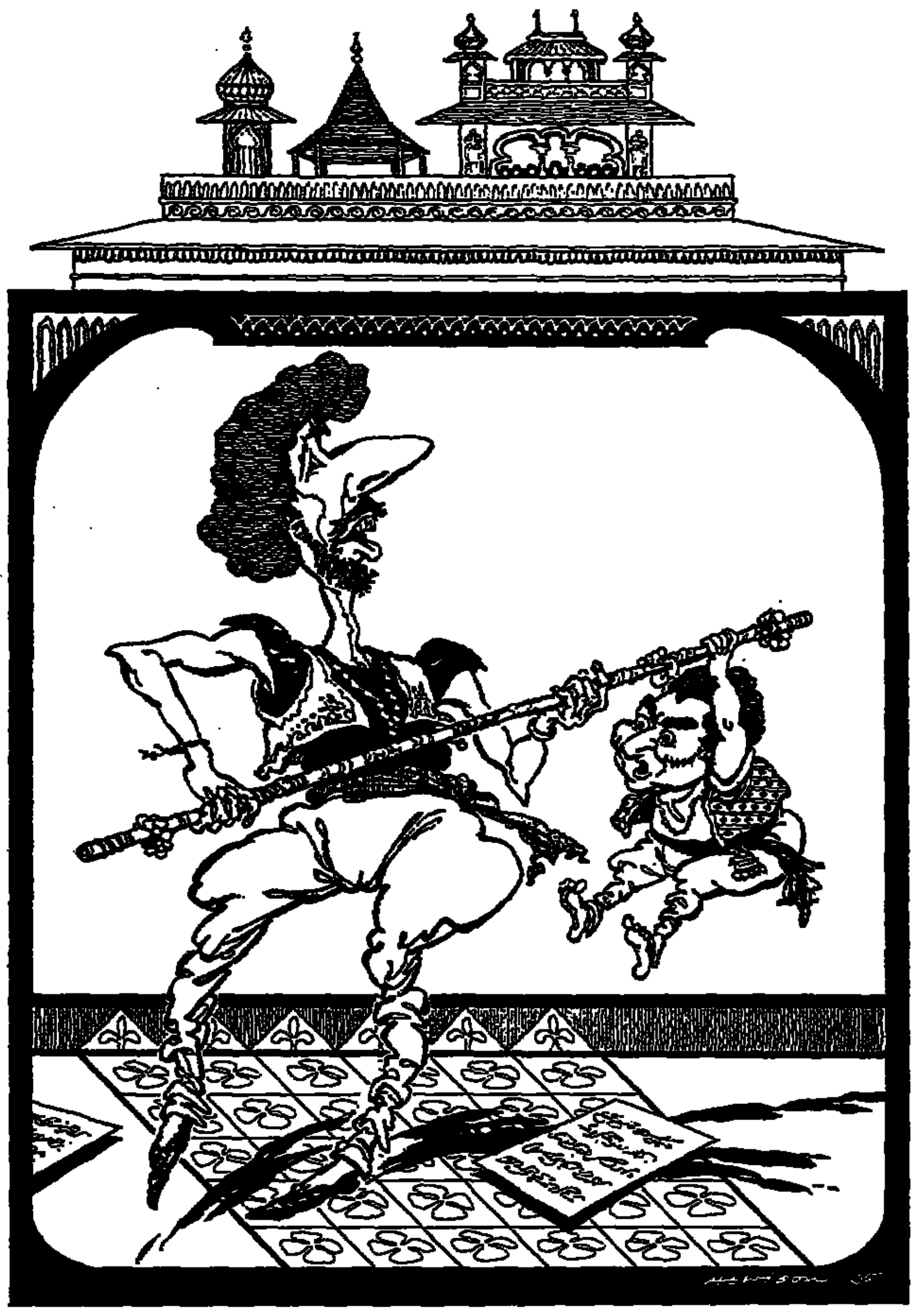
But the most ridiculous event is yet to come. You may remember that Cyrano secretly gives the handsome Christian the language with which to win Roxane, whom he himself loves, and that Christian is killed by a Spanish bullet. How does Verma dispose of the actor Kishan, as Christian has become, when he *is* doing nothing more perilous than go to Bombay to perform in films?

I am almost embarrassed to reveal the answer. Kishan, appalled to find he is loved more for Cyrano's eloquence than for his own person, stabs himself to death while shooting *Othello's* last scene with Rukhsaan, as Roxane is now called. Why she does not take this as a rejection, but treasures his memory in perpetuity, is never explained.

Exotic costumes are on display beneath the fairy-lit bower in which the action occurs. There are lovely songs, too, and even a few dances. Bolt's rhymes are mostly up-to-scratch, and the Indian film star playing Cyrano, Naseeruddin Shah, is certainly a charismatic presence: nimble, melodic, graceful, romantic, if lacking in the toughness the role also demands.

But Anuradha Kapur's production can dawdle a bit. The balcony scene, with Shah prompting Andrew Mallett's faltering lover, works well enough; but little fun is generated by the encounter in which a tall, tapering Kishan teases Cyrano about his proboscis and the hero feels unable to object. But the real trouble is basic. Why make a successful warrior a failed luvvie?

Apart from anything else, there is an irony here. Tara seems to want to celebrate the Indian theatre of yesteryear and deplore its hijacking by "Bollywood". Yet by its emphasis on cameras, clapperboards, arrogant producers called J. J. et al, the company has done something similar. It has taken a gorgeous story and travestied it.



A luvvie, not a fighter: Naseeruddin Shah as Cyrano, Vincent Ebrahim as Raghavun

Trouble at the double

Stagings of *Macbeth* are legion at present. Most of them are frightful, with a penchant for reinstating the hack-rhyming queen-witch Hecate, together with futuristic visions of cult religions. By comparison, the simple return to the Dark Ages seems promising in Nicolas Kent's production.

Duncan's warrior kingdom bursts into life with a pitched battle, all clanging swords and crunching loose stones, foreshadowing Macbeth's final destruction. Scotland is plunged in gloom, with guttering flames and dimly gleaming steel. The encircling walls' peeling metal strips (designed by Christine Marfleet) can evoke thick woodland or an armoured fortress. With pyrotechnical wizardry, the torched ground is all aflicker, from which the Weird Sisters roll and rise like the dead.

If only our thane was not so flaming terrible. Lennie James is energised but exudes nervous awkwardness as Shakespeare's tragic hero. The fundamental flaw is the verse speaking. Speed seems more prized than sense.

Physically, James moves easily with his wife from warm kissing to terrified repulsion at her touch just after Duncan's murder, to cold manhandling. His swordsmanship is dramatic (fights by Roger Martin) with enemy blades sent flying. Regrettably, James also massacres his lines. The breathlessness that may be fitting in the early scenes trashes Macbeth's later life-weary soliloquies.

Macbeth
Tricycle, NW6

The effortlessly natural Helen McCrory's performance is from another realm. Her Lady Macbeth, while now plunging depths of darkness or rising to icy power before the assassination, is a soft-faced, determined young wife, who calls on evil spirits to harden herself up. In the wake of the murder, she becomes quietly broken with the vulnerability of a child, still struggling to be strong even in her sleep.

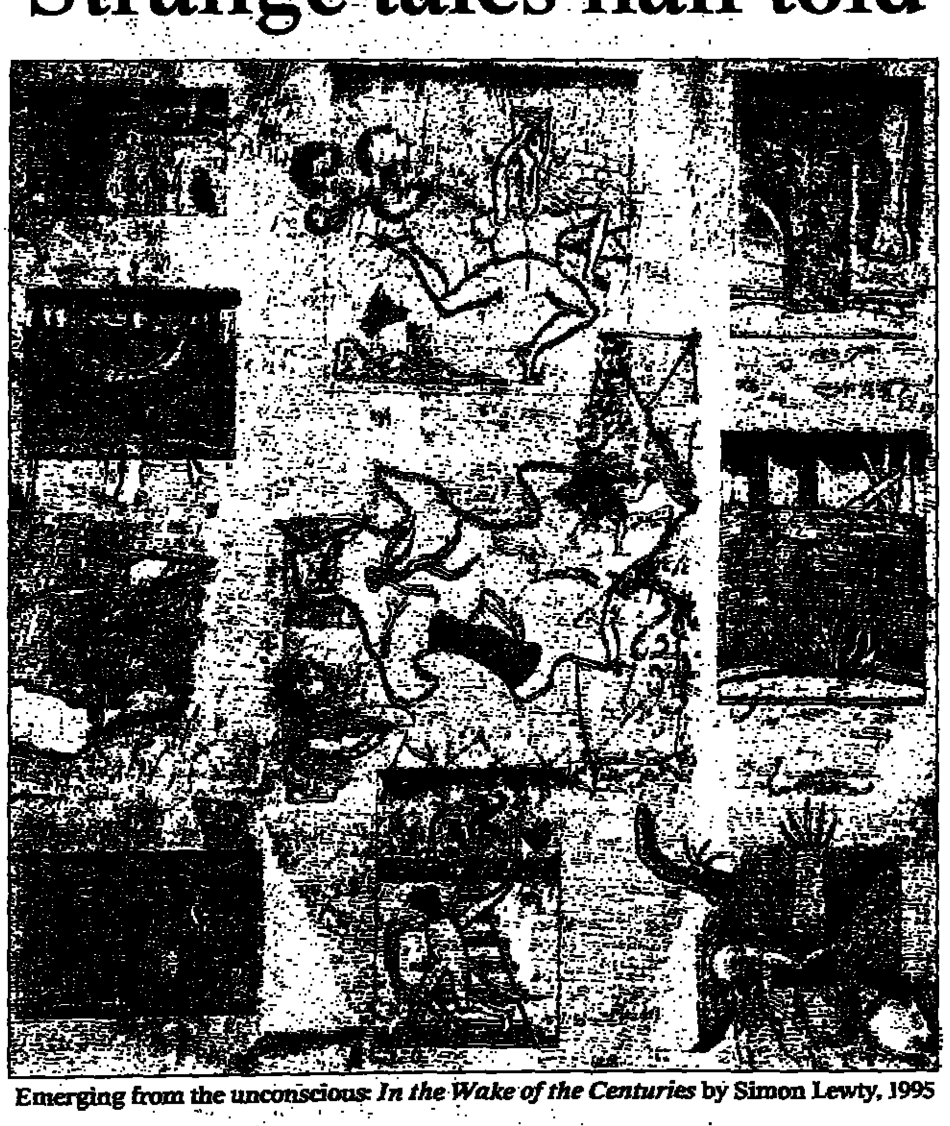
Natural: Helen McCrory as Lady Macbeth

This is an uneven production. Tom Chadbon is a nondescript Duncan though a surprisingly funny Porter. Joy Richardson is an unpoignant Lady Macduff, but is a riveting witch, hunched over her bonfire syncopating "double double" to an African beat.

KATE BASSETT

VISUAL ART: Surrealism echoes in Simon Lewty's work

Strange tales half told



Emerging from the unconscious: *In the Wake of the Centuries* by Simon Lewty, 1995

One might imagine Simon Lewty to be either eccentric or mildly schizophrenic. The combination of fantastically precise penmanship with a profusion of arcane or just plain bizarre imagery puts you on your guard.

Then there is the fact that so many of his strangest images recur so exactly in paintings exhibited years apart: the hands that do duty for heads; the leg whose sinuous curve is explained by its possession of an extra knee; the chimneys protruding from behind brick walls, tilting like the barrels of great guns. Even the long, rambling texts which occupy the greater part of his pictures' surfaces have a way of repeating themselves, year after year.

Lewty's principal preoccupation is the workings of the unconscious. It is there in the imagery, but it is most explicit in his technique. He produces endless reams of automatic drawings and writings, blows them up, edits them down, cuts them into pieces and glues them all together again, layer after layer after layer, waiting for some archetypal structure to manifest itself.

It is clear that he has been guided to this point by the example of the surrealists. Paul Nash, he says, inspired his conscious affinity with a few highly charged locations. This, after all, is a man who moved all of 20 miles from Sutton Coldfield to Leamington Spa in 1950 (at the age of 9), and, barring his excursion to Hornsey College of Art, has stayed there ever since.

He is, it is true, still well informed about his peers, but it is now ten years since he came to consider himself aesthetically self-sufficient. His subject is himself: he ascribes the power of his chosen territory to long familiarity, not to any special magic in the landscape. Leamington Spa is fascinating because of what it can tell him about himself.

But what can it tell us? Curiously, not very much. And perhaps that is not an accident. You cannot help suspect that the extreme fragmentation and obscurity of his images is consciously calculated to exclude. It is possible to read the overlayerings and obliterations, the scratchings and the scarifications as symbols of the workings of the mind over time. But it would be a mistake to accept them as actual manifestations of the process.

These are highly crafted, carefully edited, mannerist equivalents of the surreal. Those apparently random superimpositions produce a complex, rhythmic pulse and flow across the surface as a whole, and the rich, abraded surfaces and vivid draughtsmanship are strangely beautiful. Those half-suppressed hints of narrative, those vivid evocations of fugitive visions, tease and tantalise.

CHARLES HALL

● *Simon Lewty: Voices from Lost Fields is at Art First, 9 Cork Street, London W1X 1PD (0171 734 0386) until next Thursday*

When everyone's a winner

RADIO

RADIO and professional boxing have one thing in common: what is it? If I had my own radio programme, I could submit this question and perhaps end up clutching the annual award for "best on-air contest/competition" in the **Sony Radio Awards.**

Apart from its propensity for bringing about tragedy, professional boxing has another serious fault: the fact that instead of having one world champion in every weight division, it has four. This has devalued the sport and led to a loss of interest, certainly on my part.

And the trouble with the Sony Awards is that if the categories increase at the present rate, just getting out of bed and walking into a studio will soon qualify for a gong.

The ballyhoo for the 1996 awards began this month with the announcement of the categories. There are 33. They include, yes, "best on-air contest/competition". Indeed, ten of this year's categories were not there last year, when some of us felt there were already more than enough.

John Whitney, who is chairman of the awards committee, says that winning a Sony is "the ultimate accolade". This is undoubtedly true and the Sonys remain the radio equivalent of the Oscars. But radio, for all its burgeoning audience, is a small industry in the best sense of the term. The suspicion is that 33 categories represent an attempt to inflate the importance of radio, although it will surely have the opposite effect.

If an award for a radio competition is plain daft, what are we to make of the award for "creativity/innovation in radio programming". Broadcasting is about being creative and innovative: why should it attract special merit?

The Sony panel appears to think that innovation is in danger, therefore it needs the special impetus of an award. I would have thought that giving innovation its own sector endangered it a lot more.

Once upon a time the awards were a simple matter: best drama, best feature, best news programming, that kind of thing. You know where you are with categories that select themselves.

There is also a danger that by widening the scope of the awards, the panel is tacitly stating that radio is not producing as much quality output as used to be the case. This implies that the good old days were better days, an odd attitude for a panel whose work is sponsored by one of the world's most forward-looking corporations.

Nor is this attitude remotely justified, for radio drama, radio features, radio music and radio current affairs have never been in better shape, as a string of programmes which will be submitted for awards fully testify.

The 1997 panel could well take advice from some of the actors it will be asked to judge. For in radio awards as in theatrical performance, less is undoubtedly more.

PETER BARNARD

DANCE: Careful construction makes for a touching show

Calling in the builder

SIOBHAN DAVIES works with ideas the way a master builder works with stone. She starts with the finest materials and then enhances them with superior craftsmanship. Gradually the ideas get bigger and bigger, until an entire edifice of intellectual assembly has been erected. In the case of Davies's new work, one of the highlights of the Dance Umbrella festival, the idea is touch.

Inspired by the keyboard sonatas of Domenico Scarlatti, *The Art of Touch* is a vibrant movement landscape springing from a web of tactile connections. The first relationship for the seven dancers is with the floor: they skim over it, bounce off it, rush across it, their feet zig-zagging in quick time, picking up the gentle percussion of fingers against keyboard. Their next relationship is with each other, the performers inviting physical contact from their neighbour. Then comes pushing and carrying, the natural extension of touch, as the choreography ventures into wider territory.

Ideas grow less concrete. Dancers touch the air, they punch it, caress it. Touch becomes the catalyst for movement, the spark that generates the ensemble's kinetic energy. Touch becomes a magnet, drawing male to female, or a fulcrum — balancing a dancer in the spaces of David Buckland's warm, bronzed stone walls.

Thus the idea slowly reproduces before our eyes, layer upon layer, born of Scarlatti's formal baroque construction, animated by his wit and gaiety. Until Davies abruptly changes musical gear, that is. She has commissioned Matteo Fargion, an Italian composer working 250 years after Scarlatti, to have a contemporary go at the harpischord. But the sounds he produces, the antithesis of the sweet clarity that has gone before, throw the choreography into feckless untidiness. It is a shame, since Davies was having such a good time with Scarlatti — and so were we.

Catherine Quinn of the Siobhan Davies Dance Company

Siobhan Davies
Sadler's Wells

The Art of Touch is part of a double bill that affords another opportunity to see Davies's *Wild Translations*, set to Kevin Volans's *Dancers on a Plane, 5th String Quartet*. The score incorporates the recorded sounds of children and laughter, snatched moments of personal history amid the scratch of the strings and the babble of insect noises. The choreography mirrors the sense of drifting reflections and unfolds them in a place which has its own powerful atmosphere.

The dancers inhabit a self-contained, enclosed world, their moves the external realisations of their internal moods and memories. Bathed by Peter Mumford's womb-like low lighting, the stage feels like the middle of a hot and humid summer night, the dancers shaped by the furtive games of darkness and the predatory watchfulness of creatures who are trying to let down their guard. This is Davies at her most secretive, her most vivid, and her most compelling.

DEBRA CRAINE

TONIGHT AT 7.45
SATURDAY AT 3.00 & 7.45
JERRY HERMAN & MICHAEL STEWART'S
MACK & MABEL
HOWARD McGILLIN CAROLINE O'CONNOR
MACK & MABEL
MICHAEL STEWART JERRY HERMAN
KATHRYN EVANS
MARTIN JOHNS
MICHAEL SMUIN
PAUL KERRYSON
GALA OPENING 7 NOVEMBER
0171 369 1734
0171 344 4444
0171 413 3321
PICCADILLY THEATRE

■ CHOICE 1

Trumpeter Hakan Hardenberger is the soloist with the Philharmonia

VENUE: Sunday at the Corn Exchange, Bedford

■ CHOICE 2

The Celine *Dion* phenomenon goes on the road in Britain

VENUES: See listing for weekend dates

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ OPERA

Ancient Greece bursts into boisterous life in Scottish Opera's new *La Belle Hélène*

■ MUSIC

Sir Simon Rattle ends his Beethoven cycle with a startling Eighth and an epic Ninth

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

ABUNDANCE. Maryam d'Abo and *Myriam Cyr play mail-order brides* struggling to survive the rigours of 1860s Wyoming. From Pulitzer Prize *winner Beth Henley, directed by Lisa* Forrell.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 *(0181-741 2255). Now previewing, 8pm,* opens Nov 1, until Dec 3. ♿

JANICE WATSON The soprano who won both *The Scotsman* and the Hamada Awards at the 1992 Edinburgh Festival (both for the most exciting event of the Festival) continues the Wigmore's excellent Song Recital series. Tomorrow evening's programme includes pieces by *Liszt, Strauss and* Rachmaninov
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 *(0171-935 2141) Tomorrow, 5pm* ♿

HOWARD KEEL The star of some of the greatest Americana musicals, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Show Boat* and *Calamity Jane among them*, comes out of retirement again for another *round of his highly entertaining concert* tours.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) *Tomorrow, 7.30pm* ♿

ELSEWHERE

***BEDFORD** The* **Philharmonia Orchestra** offers some real treats on Sunday: a feast of Mozart, a world premiere (Turnage's *Dispelling the Fears*), Daniel Harding at the podium and Hakan Hardenberger as one of the trumpet soloists
Corn Exchange, St Paul's Square (01234-344 813). Sun, 7.30pm. ♿

BIRMINGHAM: James Purefoy and Rakie Ayola play Mirabell and Millamant, with Linda Spurrier as Lady Wishfort, in Bill Alexander's production of **The Way of the World.** William Congreve's delightful comedy, admired for nearly 300 years for its brilliant wordplay.
Repertory, Centenary Square (0121-236 4455). *Previews tonight-Mon,* and opens Oct 31, 7.30pm Until Nov 18 ♿

LEEDS First night of previews too for **The Beatification of Area Boy.** Nobel Prize-winner Wole Soyinka's new play *about corruption and survival in modern* Lagos Jude Kelly directs
Courtyard, West Yorkshire Playhouse, *Quarry Mount* (0113-244 2111). Previews tonight-Mon, and opens Oct 31, 7.45pm Until Nov 25. ♿

MANCHESTER** The* ***Celine Dion phenomenon hits the UK this weekend. Hailed in some quarters as the "new *Mariah Carey*". Dion is a singer with tremendous reserves of power, capable of tackling any emotion so long *as it is big. Tonight's opener in* Glasgow is sold out.
Arena ♿ (0161-834 4477). Sun, 7.30pm; then **Sheffield**, Arena ♿ (0114-256 5656), Oct 30; **London**, Wembley Arena ♿ (0181-900 1234), Nov 1; **Birmingham**, NEC ♿ (0121-780 4133), Nov 4.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Dora Carrington (0171-638 4141) . . **British Museum**: Hellenistic *World: Art and Culture (0171-636 1555)* **Hayward**: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144) **National Gallery**: Gods in Love, the Caracci Cartoons Restored (0171-747 2885) . . **National Portrait Gallery**: John Kobal Photographic Portrait Award (0171-306 0055) . . **Royal Academy**: Africa: Art of a Continent (0171-439 7438) . . **Serpentine**. Big City: Artists from Africa *(0171-723 9072)* . . . **Tate**: Dynasties. Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England (0171-*887 8000)* . . . ***V & A**. Design Now: San* Lorenzo Silversmiths Studio, Milan. Walker Evans: photos of African sculpture (0171-938 8500) **Whitechapel**: Seven Stories about Modern Art in Africa (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

- ■ **House full, returns only**
- ◩ **Some seats available**
- □ **Seats at all prices**

□ ***ARTHUR SMITH*** *Performs* his 42-minute version of the play formerly known as *Hamlet* Six perfs only, late night on three successive weekends
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Tonight and tomorrow, Nov 3/4, 10/11, 10.30pm. ♿

□ **THE CABINET OF DOKTOR CALIGARI**: Premiered at Nottingham, a *stage version of the German silent* classic. Good sets, unearthly music, pointless dancing but a haunting performance by John Ramm as Matthew Kelly's sleepwalking killer
Lyric, King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311). Now previewing, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm Opens Oct 31, 7pm. ♿

□ **HENRY V**: Matthew Warchus' acclaimed production, with Iain Glen outstanding as the warrior king
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight-Mon, 7.15pm, mat Sat, 2pm. ♿

◩ **JOLSON**: The story of the first man *to speak in movies, with Brian Conley in* the lead and a sequence of songs from the Jolson repertoire. Rob Bettinson *directs a £2 million musical.*
Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm: *mats Wed and Sat. 3pm.* ♿

◩ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS** Stephen Daldry's powerful production returns, this time with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm, *mats Wed, 2.30pm, and Sat,* 5pm.

■ **MACK AND MABEL**: *The Jerry* Herman musical set in early Hollywood where the careers of Mack Sennett and Mabel Normand *unfold and clash* Fine songs, though a troublesome book. Paul Kerryson directs Howard McGillin and Caroline O'Sullivan in the leads.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Now previewing; mat Wed and Sat. 3pm.7.45pm Opens Nov 7.

□ **THE MASTER BUILDER**: Peter Hall's cosy version of Ibsen, with Alan Bates, Gemma Jones and Victoria Hamilton.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. ♿

□ **PRISONER CELL BLOCK H: THE MUSICAL**. Lily Savage takes to the sort-of-legit stage in a musical version of the television series, put *through the Savage* mincer.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5044) Now previewing, *tonight and Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm.* Opens Oct 30, 7pm.

■ **THREE TALL WOMEN**: Maggie Smith, Sara Kestelman and Samantha Bond in Edward Albee's fascinating play about the adoptive mother who withered his childhood.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm: *mats Wed and Sat. 3pm*

□ **VIVAT! VIVAT REGINA!**: Janet McTeer and Barbara Flynn play the queens in *Robert Bolt's drama of the* rivalry between Elizabeth I and Mary, Queen of Scots. Roy Marsden directs
***Mermaid**, Puddle Dock, EC4* (0171-236 2211). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 2pm and Sat, 3pm. ♿

□ **THE WAY OF THE WORLD** Roger Allam and Fiona Shaw play Mirabell and Millament, with Geraldine McEwan as Lady Wishfort. Phyllida Lloyd directs Congreve's most famous comedy of love frustrated and fulfilled.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm; Sat, 2.15 and 7.30pm. ♿

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

HAUNTED (15). Ghost sceptic Aidan Quinn revises his opinions staying in a stately home. Laboured version of James Herbert's novel Director, Lewis Gilbert.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031)

***THE LIFE AND EXTRAORDINARY* ADVENTURES OF PRIVATE IVAN CHONKIN** (15): Pleasant satire about a *doltish soldier and Russia's military* machine, but the film's time has passed. Jiri Menzel directs
Minema (0171-235 4225) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

TAKE CARE OF YOUR SCARF, TATJANA: Poignant comic delight from Finnish minimalist Aki Kaurismäki. Plus *Total Balalaika Show*: the Leningrad *Cowboys in joyous concert with the* Red Army Ensemble.
ICA ♿ (0171-930 3647)

◆ **TO DIE FOR** (15): Delicious social satire about a television weather girl's murderous lust for glory Gus Van Sant directs Nicole Kidman and Matt Dillon.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 *9772)* ***Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)* **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ♿ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **UNDER SIEGE 2** (18): *Die Hard* on a train, with an impassive star (Steven Seagal), a grinning villain (Eric Bogosian), and much tedious action. Director, Geoff Murphy
MGM Trocadero ♿ (0171-434 0031) ***UCI Whiteleys*** ♿ *(0171-792 3332)* **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

◆ **APOLLO 13** (PG): The near-fatal moon mission of 1970. Splendid images, but conventional drama. With Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Ed Harris, director, Ron Howard.
Empire ♿ (0990 888990) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **POCAHONTAS** (U): Strangely dull slice of American history: a backward step for *Disney cartoons after Aladdin* and *The Lion King* With the voices of Mel Gibson and Irene Bedard.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) ***Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)* **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

◆ ***CLUELESS** (12): Life and empty* minds of Beverly Hills teenagers Frivolous fun from director Amy Heckerling, with Alicia Silverstone
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE NET** (12). New technology, but enjoyable old thrills, with Sandra Bullock as a computer expert in peril
MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)* **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) ***Mezzanine ♿ *(01426 915683)* **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SPECIES** (18): Mutant heroine causes havoc in LA. Nasty, flat-footed creature feature, with Natasha Henstridge and Ben Kingsley. Director, Roger Donaldson.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

THE WILD BUNCH (18) William *Holden's outlaws have one last, bloody* fling. Sam Peckinpah's classic Western of 1969, released with ten minutes restored.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279)

Smut done with style

BILL COOPER

Riotous nights in ancient Greece: Orestes (Ann Taylor) leads the fun in *Belle Hélène*

OPERA

La Belle Hélène
Royal, Glasgow

THIS riotous new production of Offenbach's operetta should *do Scottish Opera's morale* a power of good. Steady reduction of funding over the years has led to the company being forced to move towards part-time contracts for employees; there are those unkind enough *to feel that it deserved punishment* for inflicting something as frightful as its *Jacobin* on the Edinburgh Festival. But this *Belle Hélène* confirms that it must be preserved for the nation — any nation, if the Scots don't want it.

John Wells's snazzy new translation bristles with double meanings and misleading rhymes, which could pass *either* for Second Empire sauciness or good honest schoolboy smut. Either way is fine by me. Sets (Christian Rätz) and costumes (Agostino Cavalca) blend Belle Epoque, ancient Greece and contemporary *Glasgow with a ready* wit. The conductor, Emmanuel Joël, revels in one of the great masterpieces of the lyric theatre — and I mean that — finding in turn the cheek, suaveness and moments of po-faced mock-seriousness. He *also recognises that words* must be heard, and cunningly tempers his speeds to accommodate them without missing out on the Bacchic frenzy that also had to be part of Offenbach.

There are one or two problems, inevitably on the first night of so complex a show. The running time is over three-and-a-half hours, and those few impatient Glaswegians who left at the second interval missed some of the best (and filthiest) jokes. The producers Patrice Caurier and Moshe *Leiser courageously* risk using a very full text, but *whereas 1864 audiences would* have recognised the satire on the party games that Mérimée organised at Napoleon III's court, we don't, and the charades do go on.

But Caurier, Leiser and the *cast go at it with such spirit* that time passes swiftly enough, and I should hate to lose a single line or bar of Anne Howells's Helen of Troy. She is a mistress of comic timing and innuendo, *reducing the audience to helpless* laughter with the mere twitch of an eyebrow. It is worth going to Glasgow to hear her deliver the line "Oh, surely not", and you will have to go to Glasgow to find out why. *If she is now well placed* to play a woman of a certain age, you wouldn't know it from the freshness of her firm and plushy mezzo.

The American tenor Tracey Welborn plays Paris with an *Inspector Clouseau accent and* a startling lack of modesty: his appearance as the High Priest of Venus could well have attracted the attention of the watch committee in less enlightened times. His light, liquid voice is perfect for the role — a very difficult one. John Mitchinson is the deadly serious, gloriously befuddled Menelaus. Andrew Slater (Agamemnon) and Gordon Wilson (Achilles) are really *useful straight-men:* the Ajaxes, James Drummond Wilson and Garry Magee, are got up as Gilbert-and-Sullivan; Ann Taylor's Orestes could stop "singing" so much and sharpen her words. Jonathan Veira makes a nicely over-the-top Calchas. The chorus has a high old time. So did I.

RODNEY MILNES

CONCERTS: Bracing new thoughts about Beethoven and Berlioz from Rattle and Norrington

Revelations to the last

CBSO/Rattle
Birmingham

THERE has been nothing conventional in Simon Rattle's Beethoven cycle, and rethought interpretations have been performed by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra with such apparent spontaneity that, while they might have been alarming in places, they have always been convincing on their own terms.

That was the situation, at least, until the last of the four programmes: the *Eighth and Ninth Symphonies.* For once, it seems to me, Rattle got something seriously wrong. His rejection of the idea of maximising the contrast between Beethoven's "little one" and the mighty Choral Symphony is understandable. But his shattering interpretation of the Eighth is surely based on a misunderstanding of the intentions behind it.

To see the work in its chronological context between the Seventh and Ninth, without taking into account its deliberately cultivated stylistic image, is to distort it. Indeed, with the reverberation chambers open in Symphony Hall and every dynamic contrast exploited for drama rather than humour, it is to do it violence.

Rattle's interpretation of the Choral Symphony was masterful. It did not seem possible that he could honour the *promise of the slow tempo adopted at* the beginning of the third movement, and yet in the Adagio sections, setting the wonderfully fluent Andante material into ever more lyrical relief, he did. Between the stony texture and runic phrasing of the first movement and an *uncommonly* aggressive scherzo, on the one hand, and before the onslaught of the finale on the other, much was asked of the orchestra in the slow movement. In beauty of sound and quality of line, the CBSO supplied it.

Much was asked also of the CBSO Chorus in a finale where nothing was held back and where, singing from *memory, the choir performed* with exhilaratingly fearless regard for the extremes to which it was driven. After the hypnotic unfolding of the joy theme and the stirring intervention of the bass soloist, Robert Holl, they could scarcely have failed. The tenor, Patrick Power, seemed to misjudge his entry in the Alla marcia and the alto, Cynthia Clarey, sounded underpowered, but the soprano, Amanda Halgrimson, sustained the radiance which is what the finale is all about.

GERALD LARNER

Now put it on stage

LPO/Norrington
Festival Hall

TRADITIONAL wisdom has it that Berlioz's "dramatic legend" *The Damnation of Faust* works best not on the stage but in the theatre of the *imagination. The exotic locations and* supernatural trappings cannot be realised satisfactorily on the stage, the argument goes; hence the supposed desirability of a concert performance.

Harry Kupfer's thrilling and thought-provoking staging gave the lie *to that theory a few years ago. But I* have rarely hankered for action at a concert performance more than at the one given by Roger Norrington and the London Philharmonic on Wednesday. That is not because the performance lacked excitement; on the contrary it was so electrifying that one felt the missing dimension all the more keenly.

Norrington's *reading made no* attempt to disguise the asperities and idiosyncrasies of Berlioz's score. Quite the reverse: he revelled in them. Rhythmic disjunctions were pointed up, pungent discords exaggerated, and *colourful timbral effects enhanced.* Where other conductors might have gone for the long line, Norrington observed minute detail within phrases, combining those fragments to make vibrant, animated statements.

Movements like the Hungarian March emerged in bright colour, while the fast waltz of Mephistopheles's Serenade was made all the more grotesque with fierce cross-accents. The Ride to the Abyss, accompanied by screeching female voices, was aptly hair-raising, and the ensuing infernal pandemonium apocolyptic.

The orchestra gave a full-blooded *account of the score, albeit at the cost of* some unfortunate mishaps. The London Philharmonic Choir and Philharmonia Chorus joined forces to deliver the vocal ensembles lustily.

Keith Lewis's Faust was ardent, yet sensitive to the inflexions of line. *Jennifer Larmore was an outstanding* Marguerite: supple in phrasing, poised yet affecting. Nathan Berg's brief appearance as Brander was vocally satisfactory, if without a great deal of dramatic projection. Jose van Dam alone — as a supple, ironic Mephistopheles — managed to inject some sense of theatrical presence. But *the performance as a whole* cried out for dramatic perspective. How good it would be to hear Norrington and these forces in an imaginative staging.

BARRY MILLINGTON

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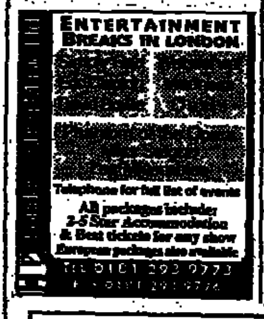

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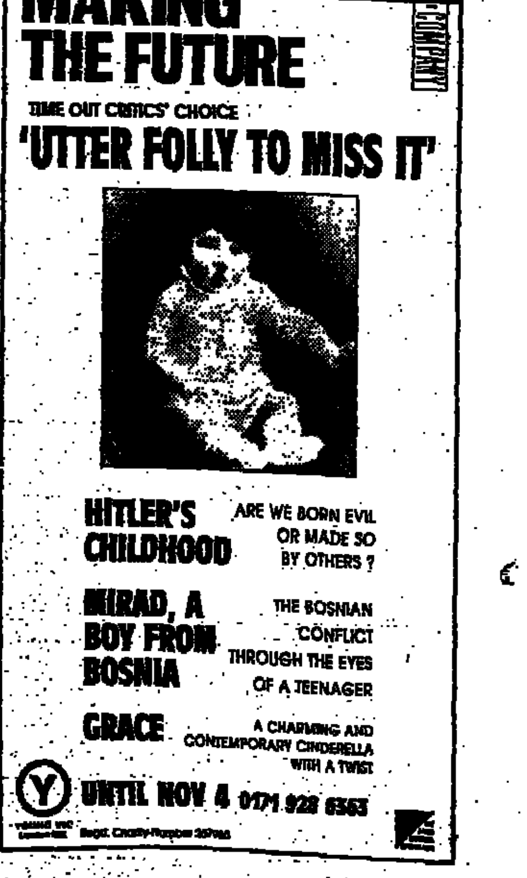

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■ POP 1

Pulp continue to entertain seedily with a collection of anti-romantic mini-dramas on *Different Class*

■ POP 2

... while Meat Loaf may have produced another unlikely hit with his new *Welcome to the Neighbourhood*

THE TIMES ARTS POP

■ POP 3

... but Erasure take a sprawling, earnest and indigestible turn for the worse on their new album

■ POP 4

It ought to be fifth time lucky for Chris Parry's pioneering radio station, Xfm

Louche canon finally on target

NEW ALBUMS: Jarvis Cocker's lowlife lyrics have come of age on a Pulp classic, says **David Sinclair**

Pulp's Jarvis Cocker (second from right) "emerges as a shrewd commentator, with a playwright's ear for words, while the band supplies a dramatic backdrop" on *Different Class*

PULP
Different Class
(Island 524 165)

PULP are the great interlopers of Britpop. About ten years older than most of their rivals, they have consistently shunned the cool musical reference points of the 1990s (Beatles, Stones, Kinks) in favour of a range of influences notable for their quite spectacular naffness. Richard Harris, Serge Gainsbourg, the Boomtown Rats, Gloria Gaynor and Barry Ryan are among the more obvious inspirations that have shaped *Different Class*.

It is nevertheless an entertaining collection of leftfield kitchen sink dramas which continues to mine the vein of seedy English voyeurism exposed by last year's breakthrough LP, *His 'n' Hers*. Since that album, singer Jarvis Cocker has become a fully fledged pop icon, but the worldview of his lyrics is more determinedly prosaic and anti-romantic than ever. In song after song, the detritus of soiled relationships and the fallout from sordid encounters piles up: *Underwear*, *Pencil Skirt*, *F.E.E.L.I.N.G.C.A.L.L.E.D.L.O.V.E*, *Live Bedshow*.

The posh bird who fancies slumming it with a bit of working class rough makes an obvious target in *Common People*, but even the supposedly sussed kids of the rave generation get their share of sarcastic scorn on *Sorted for E's and Wizz*, a tale of all-night partying with the memorable parting shot: "I seem to have left an important part of my brain somewhere in a field in Hampshire."

Cocker emerges as a shrewd, if somewhat world-weary commentator, with a playwright's ear for words, while the band supplies a suitably dramatic, eccentric and, at times, even epic musical backdrop. Love it or loathe it, *Different Class* is in a class of its own, and Pulp's reputation as pop's ranking outsiders remains gloriously intact.

MEAT LOAF
Welcome to the Neighbourhood
(Virgin 7243 8 41121)

HAVING made a miraculous return from the grave in 1993 with the mega-selling *Bat Out of Hell II — Back into Hell*, Meat Loaf is plainly determined not to lose momentum again. Instead of hanging around in the uncertain hope that writer Jim Steinman will come up with another tailor-made blockbuster for him, he has gone for a speedy follow-up with a batch of off-the-peg material, collected from a variety of reliable sources.

As well as two songs by Steinman, *Welcome to the Neighbourhood* features contributions from Diane Warren (three songs), Sammy Hagar, Tom Waits and others. As ever, it is Steinman who facilitates the vintage Meat experience, especially on *Left in the Dark*, where the overheated lyric is punctuated by musical exclamation marks — "You tell me who! You tell me where! You tell me when!" — that rain down on the tune like a fist pounding on a table.

Warren achieves an immaculate pastiche of Steinman's style, right down to the trademark brackets housing the sting in the tail of Meat's current hit, *I'd Lie for You (And That's the Truth)*. But her songs end up sounding like Meat-by-numbers, particularly *Not a Dry Eye in the House*, which stretches a corny old movie-theatre metaphor ("the last act is over") to absurd lengths.

Hagar's *Amnesty is Granted* and *Runnin' for the Red Light* (a rare co-writing credit from Meat himself) are predictably boneheaded rockers delivered with Meat's customary combination of bathos and bluster, while *Martha*, an ancient Tom Waits's ballad, is pulverised into submission.

The album is a long haul over mountainous choruses, heaving seas of emotion and gusting clouds of cliché, but it is put together with such staggering self-belief that it almost seems churlish not to hail it as another unlikely triumph.

ERASURE
Erasure
(Mute STUMM 145)

CRITICISED last time around for sticking to a failsafe formula and not moving with the times, Erasure have taken a markedly different tack on their new album. Gone are the neat, three-minute synth-pop songs which have been their stock in trade for more than a decade. In their place is a succession of six, seven and even ten-minute epics laced with spacy, ambient keyboard textures.

Starting with straightforward tunes sung by Andy Bell in his rich, plummy tenor, songs such as *Fingers & Thumbs (Cold Summer's Day)* and *Rock Me Gently* are gradually spun out into long, complex themes by keyboard and computer operator Vince Clarke (with help on occasion from the caterwauling avant-garde diva Diamanda Galás).

Bell's lyrics still tend towards simple, sentimental expressions of love and romance, but a more earnest tone creeps into numbers such as *Stay with Me* and *Grace* ("Looking in the papers makes me sorry to be human"). It *is* more adventurous than their previous work, but it is also a sprawling and indigestible album that could end up baffling as many fans as it delights. It seems they can't win.

CAPERCAILLIE
To the Moon
(Survival CURCD 019)

ALTHOUGH their roots lie deep in the earth of Scottish Gaelic culture, Capercaillie's branches have spread further into the refined air of New Age balladry and the pop mainstream with every passing album.

This is not an especially welcomed process, and there are songs on this album, such as *Claire in Heaven* and *Why Don't You Touch Me*, that would give better service on an Eddi Reader record. The diminished role of the Gaelic language in their lyrics is another loss, especially when replaced by polite romantic couplets such as: "Only you can kiss the pain away/And only you can wish the rains away". But Karen Matheson still boasts a voice as clear and pure as sunshine dancing on the rim of a glass, and when they harness their musicianship to the traditional tune of *Ailein Duinn* or the unusual Highland-funk hybrid of *Fear — Allabain*, they still conjure a rare mood of mystical allure.

Rap and roles

IN THE waves of exaggerated excitement that have swept up Britpop, it seems to be only white boys and guitar bands who have qualified for the ride. The rest are left floundering in the wake. They do not deserve to drown, as Eusebe persuasively demonstrate.

Eusebe are three rappers (a brother and sister and their cousin) who have fashioned a fine example of London hiphop. Their new album, *Tales from Mamma's Yard* (which includes their hit single, *Summertime Healing*), boasts a wealth of influences and ideas. Bits of Marvin Gaye, gospel and 1970s funk are allied to a rapping style that mixes Public Enemy with Salt 'n' Pepa.

CONCERT

Eusebe
Waterfront,
Norwich

On stage, the threesome, helped out by a drummer, percussionist, bassist and singer, produce a sparky, distinctive concoction from their diverse ingredients. They then sell it with verve, especially the strutting Saybe, with his bleached hair and tartan trousers.

Watching Eusebe is like witnessing the antics of kids in the kitchen. The in-jokes and disrupted conversations are filtered through familiar roles: the show-off brother, the long-suffering sister. There is none of the macho posturing of the gangsta rappers. They prefer gentle mockery to heavy weaponry. The effect is no less powerful, especially in *Pick it Up*, their satire on the record industry's minuscule attention span.

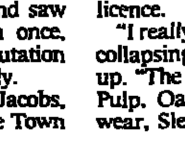
In their other songs, the targets range from racial harassment to chicken takeaways. Whatever the topic, the performance is animated by their vaudeville style. On *Da Blockas*, a tale of friends who outstay their welcome, the band acts out the drama.

But for all the hamming it up, Eusebe are not fooling around. They slide from gospel harmonies to three-part raps, adding a new sound to Britpop's limited repertoire.

JOHN STREET

The no-platform station

The happening kids of London agree – Xfm is where it's at, man. So why can't it get a permanent licence?



CAITLIN MORAN

"I would be willing to wrestle Meat Loaf in a bath of baked beans," says Chris Parry, co-director of the radio station Xfm. Possessed of a pair of the soundest ears in the music industry, Parry is the man who spotted the Cure in 1978 and recognised their potential; who picked up on an unknown Oxford band called Radiohead and played their song, *Creep*, on Xfm so often that EMI signed them and saw *Creep* conquer the world. More than once, Parry has staked his savings and his reputation on a hunch that has paid off handsomely.

So when, in 1992, Parry and Sammy Jacobs, the booker for what was then called the Town and Country Club, in London, decided to launch a radio station catering for 16 to 24-year-olds hungering for indie/dancey/weirdy stuff, it was generally accepted that once it had got past the small formality of a test broadcast, Xfm would be granted a London-wide frequency, to be followed up a year or so later with a nationwide, party-time, "I need to have a small transistor implanted in my head so I don't miss a second of this" licence.

After all, 1992 was the year that alternative music became huge, influencing fashion and turning bemused 30-year-olds into spectators as grunge enveloped the world in its unwashed tentacles. Nirvana, Pearl Jam and Smashing Pumpkins became financial empires in their own right, but remained outside the broadcasting remit of most stations.

The response to Xfm's trial broadcast was more enormous and positive than one of Steven Spielberg's dreams about a cute little child and some winsome aliens. For example, U2 gave their first *Achtung Baby* interview to Xfm, just because they thought the station was cool. The Cure headlined an Xfm-support gig in Finsbury Park which attracted more than 20,000 people. Blue-chip advertisers such as Levi and Nintendo bought swaths of air-space, and listeners flocked in their hundreds of thousands.

But Xfm's application for a permanent-broadcast licence was turned down. Another four temporary broadcasts were set up between 1992 and 1995, and still Xfm is without permanence.

And so to this week, when Xfm is making its final trial broadcast, having become so disheartened in the face of constant, inexplicable rejection that it can't face another trial broadcast and yet another hopes/rocks interface. And hence Chris Parry's offer to grapple with the mighty Meat Loaf in a bath of Heinz's finest if it means Xfm will finally be given a licence.

"I really don't understand it," he says, wearily collapsing on to a sofa, and lighting a tiny roll-up. "The kind of music we play is *enormous*: Pulp, Oasis, Blur, Suede, Radiohead, Menswear, Sleeper, Elastica ... There is insatiable demand. Yet there is no station in London — the area we're concentrating on at the moment — dedicated to that music. There's a station devoted to Christians, a station devoted to jazz, a station devoted to classical music; and — no disrespect to fans of any of those things — but, put simply, more people want to listen to Xfm than any of those stations.

"It makes sound business sense to have stations as diverse as possible, but in London we have the MOR-playing Heart FM, the MOR Virgin, the MOR Capital ... y'know? There's more than room enough for something different.

"Also, a radio station like ours plays an important role in helping up-and-coming bands. *The Evening Session* on Radio 1 — hosted by one of our ex-DJs — does sterling work, but it's only a few hours a week. With Xfm, you can stick us on in the morning, and we'll see you through the day with a constant stream of interesting, fresh, happening bands. And we don't have that heavy-playlist thing that Radio 1 has where, by the end of the week, you kind of feel you're living in Mariah Carey's head, because you've heard her record so many times.

"I just don't understand it. A permanent Xfm would be such a *good idea*." Parry shakes his head again.

We'll have to wait a year before we hear who's been granted the last FM licence to be granted this century. A year to spend writing letters to MPs, captains of industry and the new head of the Radio Authority. Fifth time lucky, hopefully.

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	*Life*	*Simply Red (EastWest)*
2	(What's The Story) Morning Glory?	Oasis (Creation)
3	Vault — Greatest Hits	Def Leppard (Bludgeon Riffola)
4	*The Very Best Of*	*Robert Palmer (EMI)*
5	Design of a Decade 1986-1996	Janet Jackson (A&M)
6	Stanley Road	Paul Weller (Go! Discs)
7	Chants & Dances	*Sacred Spirit (Virgin)*
8	Daydream	Mariah Carey (Columbia)
9	Mellon Collie	Smashing Pumpkins (Virgin)
10	Greatest Hits 1985-1995	Michael Bolton (Columbia)

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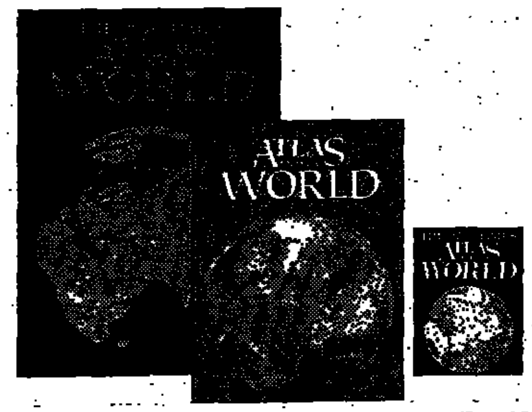

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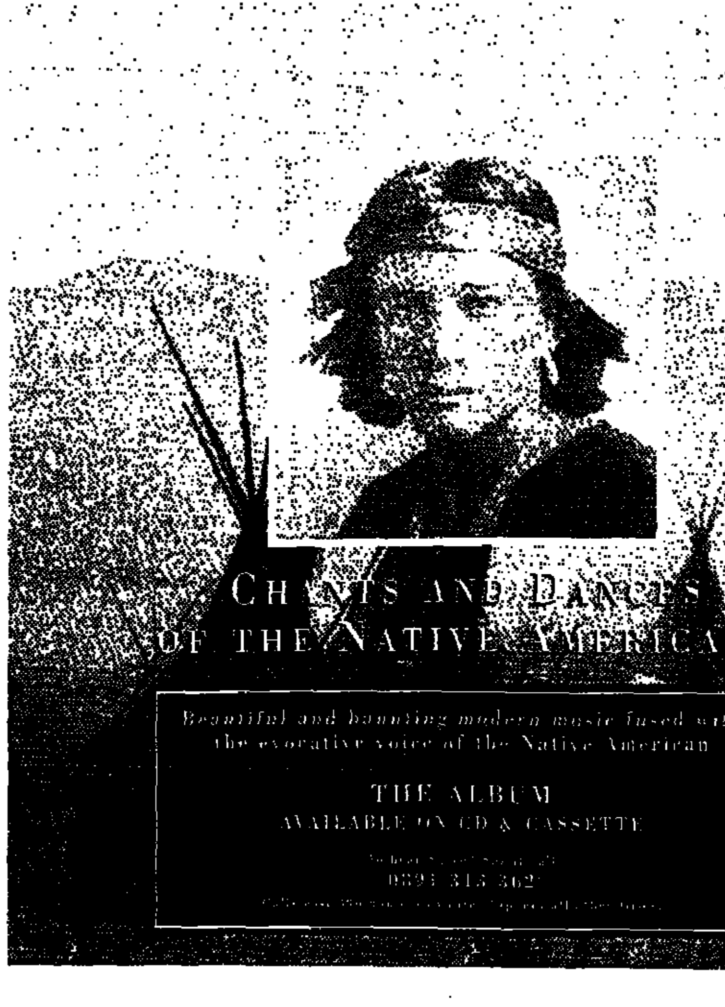
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Coaches must not stifle young stand-off half in true Welsh tradition

Thomas's pure talent offers showcase to display dying art

GERALD DAVIES

Rugby Commentary

Let us return to the rugby union World Cup for a moment. Wales were famously turfed out before the quarter-final stage for the second time in three tournaments. Sent packing by Ireland, who knew precisely how a team with limited resources but highly motivated can direct their efforts to win a game. Wales appeared bereft of an inkling of how to play rugby football. It was a dispiriting night at Ellis Park, in Johannesburg.

Observing this, it was not hard to conclude, after a period of 27 years since Wales first implemented a fully comprehensive national coaching structure, that what rugby instincts were once thought to permeate every Welshman's pores no longer applied.

This point was put to a Welsh coach who was in South Africa. In contrast to the Seventies, he was asked, has rugby been coached out of Welsh players? "Oh, come on," came the reply, "the game has moved a long way since then." Meaning, I assume, that a new sophistication has so entered the game since those antediluvian days that tactics and the manner of playing are nowadays different.

In which case, the persistent questioner continued, what would happen today to a player such as Phil Bennett. Without hesitation, the reply swiftly came that "Bennett would be *blitzed* in the modern game". So there you are, then. So much for a genius of a player. Among rugby's theorists in their flip-chart bunkers, he was discarded.

If Phil Bennett — *Phil Bennett*, for goodness sake — could be demolished in so cavalier a fashion by a prominent Welsh coach, what hope is there for those stand-off halves of a mercurial kind? They have gone out of fashion.

Against Leicester tomorrow, Arwel Thomas will play his second game of the season at stand-off half for Bristol. He is already much talked about. That he should be playing for the West Country team is some indication that his reputation, after only a season of sporadic tasters of top-grade rugby with Neath, has spread abroad. Other Welsh clubs were known to have whispered in his ear.

Having decided to become a student at Bristol University, his choice of playing at the Memorial Ground seemed eminently sensible. Were Bristol, then, to attempt to recapture the magic running that was once theirs when Morley weaved his runs and Tyler teased and when it was they, not Bath, that every Welsh club wanted on their fixture card, Thomas's might even be thought a wise choice.

Bristol, of the old school of unorthodox thought and before the Courage Clubs Championship forced clubs to constrict to conformity, would have suited him and his mischief down to the ground. But the old place has been long out of sorts and it has lost its swaying rhythms.

Rather it is that Thomas's preference is sound for purely practical reasons. Whatever counter-attractions the clubs of West Wales had to offer, the tedium and frustration of four-hour round trips on cold nights from his Bristol base to the frequent training sessions the other end of the M4 were hardly conducive to the pursuit of rugby happiness.

Much is expected of the Swansea-born 20-year-old. He has already demonstrated his precocious talent; he has now to show that he can grow into maturity — in which case, it may be just as well that he has the opportunity to do so in England, where the critical faculties are not as abrasive towards the man who wears the No 10 jersey.

To play in England will provide him with a different perspective, too, as well as the attentions of a New Zealand coach. Thomas's appeal is to the wildest dreams: a player sprinkled with stardust — which is why there is a rush to praise him. He is not the man of "work-rate" and "tackle counts", not of efficiency and comfort zones, but of daring and cunning: a running risk-taker.

The game may have moved on, as the man said, but there are those of us who long to go back. Admire as we may the stand-off halves placing their centre threequarter here, the forwards there and generally in control — Lynagh, Fox and Andrew — our hearts belong to the caddish gambler — Turner, of Sale, Davies, of Warrington, and, uniquely for New Zealand, Mehrtens, of Canterbury.

Kevin Bowring, the Wales coach, knows Thomas well enough as a player in the Wales Under-21 side. He believes Thomas to have the skill and temperament of a top-quality player. But, as Bowring admits, development is never a smooth, inexorable upward curve. If last season he could play brilliantly for Neath against Cardiff, he could equally play almost anonymously for Wales Under-21 against Scotland. That is the learning process.

It would be unwise to expect a 20-year-old to be without blemishes. Weighing a mere 10½ st, it must be hoped he will not be advised immediately to follow a protein diet and to pump iron all day. Admittedly, he may soon need the extra pounds, but the priorities will be to hone his skills and, gradually, to acquire the art of reading a game. The stand-off half, after all, must run the show. He is pivotal.

Thomas will continue the learning process for Bristol against Leicester tomorrow

Bowring in pole position

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

KEVIN BOWRING, the former London Welsh captain appointed caretaker-coach by the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), is now in pole position to take Wales into the five nations' championship next year after the decision by Alex Evans to take up an appointment in his native Australia.

Evans, Cardiff's rugby director, coached Wales in the World Cup last summer and would have carried on but for the necessity of a shoulder operation. However, he has made no secret of his desire to return to Australia to see out his working career and the offer of the post of national coaching director by the Australian Rugby Union, beginning in January, will end his three-year association with Cardiff.

"I don't think we will stand in his way," Gareth Davies, Cardiff's chief executive, said yesterday. Under Evans, 58, Cardiff won the Swalec Cup in 1994 and the Heineken League title last season and was persuaded to return for a further year. "Alex is not an establishment man, he just wants to get on with the game and win and that is a quality missing in Wales," Davies said.

The WRU wants to create three new posts, those of national squads' director, national coach and national fitness coach and was aware that Evans could make no lengthy commitment to his adopted country. Yet Jeff Young, the union's technical director, said: "Kevin Bowring deserves his opportunity and he is in the driving seat."

Bowring's appointment covers only the meeting next month with Fiji, but a longer appointment may also offer him a career alternative. "I haven't ruled out a professional coaching appointment," Bowring, a teacher at Clifton College, in Bristol, said this week. "The security of one job against the appeal of the other is the decision to be made."

Lomu: plays at Llanelli

Open rugby permits such paid positions, as it does the proposed testimonial match at Llanelli on November 21 for Ieuan Evans, the former national captain and Wales's leading try scorer. Evans, whose autobiography, *Bread of Heaven*, was launched yesterday, will play for a British Isles XV against an international XV including Jonah Lomu, the New Zealand wing.

Lomu's presence, three days after the end of New Zealand's European tour, has been guaranteed by his manager and it is hoped the international side will also include Sean Fitzpatrick, the All Blacks' captain, and Michael Lynagh, of Australia.

Lomu will play in the international in Bologna tomorrow between Italy and New Zealand, having missed the opening tour match in Catania, when the All Blacks beat Italy A 51-21. They hope Andrew Mehrtens, the Canterbury stand-off half, recovers from a leg injury that forced him off the field during the match on Wednesday after scoring 17 points.

Tiler ready to sign for Aston Villa

ASTON Villa were last night poised to sign Carl Tiler, the Nottingham Forest central defender, for £750,000. The former England Under-21 international spent the afternoon agreeing personal terms with Brian Little, the Villa manager, and, subject to a medical, the deal will be completed today. It ends Little's three-month search for a replacement for Shaun Teale, who was sold to Tranmere Rovers during the summer.

Tiler, 25, who made 87 appearances for Forest — the majority before seriously injuring an ankle two years ago — leaves the City Ground for half the then club record fee of £1.5 million that he cost from Barnsley in May, 1991.

He started only three FA Carling Premiership games last season and has since been unable to force his way back into the side. "He's a class player and I'm sure he'll fit into our style of play," Little, who has spent more than £10 million on new players since the summer, said.

Wisbech welcome some first-aid

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

WISBECH Town brought the Jewson Eastern Counties League its first place in the FA Cup first round since 1978-79 when winning a fourth-qualifying round replay over Billericay Town on Tuesday.

The north Cambridgeshire club did its league proud, five days after sorting out differences that had brought a suspension for twice failing to comply with league management committee demands to attend meetings.

Wisbech had forced a 1-1 draw at their Icis League first division opponents' ground on Saturday and beat them 2-0 in a replay in front of a crowd of 1,220 at Fenland Park. "It was a pulsating affair," Martin Davis, the secretary, said. "It kept the referee fairly interested."

Mark Brewer, of Billericay, and Peter Munns, of Wisbech, were sent off for fighting in the 56th minute and Mark Keune, of Billericay, was dismissed for a second bookable offence five minutes before the end. Munns, a 21-year-old "who'd never even been booked before", had at least just put Wisbech 2-0 ahead before his departure, adding to Dave Massingham's first-half goal.

A trip to play Kingstonian, of the Icis League premier division, was not exactly what the club had sought in its attempt to erase the memory of its last first-round appearance, a 10-1 defeat at Brighton in 1965-66. Five other post-War first-round adventures included the scalp of Colchester United in 1957-58.

The club's recent energies have been concentrated upon the FA Vase, in which it reached the semi-finals in successive years in the mid-Eighties. They held Southall to a 2-2 away draw in 1986 before falling foul of Les Ferdinand, who scored twice in a 3-1 second-leg victory.

The Vase claims Wisbech's attention tomorrow as they travel to Halstead Town, the league champions, on a tricky first-round assignment. Davis believes that the present team, managed by Ian Jones, assisted by Colin Garwood, is the equal of the successful Vase teams. "There's a real spirit here," Davis said. "Kingstonian will under-estimate us at their peril."

SPORTS LETTERS

Landmark for nation's sport

From the Chairman of the Welsh Rugby Union

Sir, We noted with great interest the comments of the National Heritage Secretary in the House of Commons on October 16, when, in repudiating the claim that National Lottery funds were being channelled towards "elitist" projects, she stated that they were for "flagship institutions" and "tourism".

Albeit from a certain partisan position, we applaud the statement of the National Heritage Secretary and confirm that support is, indeed, now being shown by the Millennium Commission for one such flagship institution.

The most famous of all Welsh sporting landmarks, the Cardiff Arms Park, is a candidate for Lottery funding. The proposed redevelopment of the stadium to mark the turn of the century has captured the imagination, unequalled enthusiasm and support of the people of Wales.

The proposal will create a world-class stadium in the heart of the capital city. The enclosure of the stadium with a sliding roof will ensure its use all year round for all forms of sport, for music, entertainment and as the finest tourist attraction in the world for the rugby enthsiast. Not only, in the words of the Heritage Secretary will "brickies and electricians" benefit, but so will the generality of the population of Wales and abroad.

The stage will be a fitting theatre for the sporting world's greatest event of 1999, the rugby union World Cup final, played seven weeks before 2000.

We have, in that combination, a heady mixture of a flagship project of outstanding future benefit coinciding happily with the Millennium, presented to 600 million television viewers around the world. This all fits well with the Prime Minister's public declaration of faith in the sporting ethic and in its promotion, as another happy coincidence.

Somewhat surprisingly, therefore, the initial bid for funding failed to find favour with the Millennium Commission. The modest notified hurdles having been overcome, it will soon be with the commissioners again, who are said to be favourably disposed. We look forward eagerly to its endorsement.

Yours faithfully,
VERNON PUGH,
Chairman,
Welsh Rugby Union,
Cardiff Arms Park,
PO Box 22,
Cardiff.

Free to move on

From the Secretary of Middlesex County Cricket Club

Sir, Simon Wilde ("Middlesex prepare to stand in way of move, October 26) reveals a misunderstanding of Test and County Cricket Board regulations by him and by John Emburey.

Emburey is still perhaps the best off-spin bowler in the country. He bowled very well last season and, despite his age, Middlesex wanted to retain his services until the end of the 1997 season. Accordingly, on September 15 the club offered him a new two-year contract. Under TCCB regulations, this offer automatically made Emburey a list one player. Even if Middlesex withdrew the offer Emburey would remain a list one player. Once a player has been placed on that list, only the TCCB may remove him. Middlesex has no power to do so.

However, on October 31 Emburey's contract as a Middlesex player will expire and thereafter he is a free agent. Even as an erstwhile Middlesex list one player, he may still join Northamptonshire as a player/coach if he wishes to do so and Middlesex is powerless to stop him. Certainly, Middlesex would not wish to stand in his way in any sense. He has been a marvellous servant of the club for more than 20 years and everyone at Middlesex wishes him every success in the future — whatever he may choose to do.

Yours faithfully,
JOE HARDSTAFF,
Secretary, Middlesex CCC,
Lord's Cricket Ground, NW8.

Parents at fault

From Mrs Jane Laidler

Sir, Whilst I have observed the appalling behaviour of spectaters of mini rugby from the same touchline position as Mr Shroot (Sports Letters, October 19), I do not share his pessimism for the participants.

From my observations, which have been the same at football and tennis, it is all too often parents who have not themselves taken part in sport who demonstrate the worst attributes. Those who have played, at whatever level, know how difficult competitive sport can be and for the most part do not display the characteristics so rightly criticised.

The relationship between the participants of junior sport, whether as team-mates or opponents, is not influenced by the examples set by their elders. My children, who are a little older than Mr Shroot's son, have already formed some of their closest and most lasting friendships through their participation in sport.

As they experience the positive lessons which can be advanced through such participation (particularly in team sport), it is my hope that they will themselves nurture and therefore help to maintain the values which have the potential to be such a constructive part of their lives.

Yours faithfully,
JANE LAIDLER,
13 Bedford Row, WC1.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

A safer haven

From Mr A. F. Raikes

Sir, Had Mr W. H. R. Jones (Sports Letters, October 19) read the memoirs of R. T. Jones Jr — *Golf is my Game* (Chatto and Windus) — he would know that the greatest tournament golfer of all time only felt comfortable in matchplay championships when he had got past the opening rounds (over 18 holes) and reached the safer haven of 36-hole contests which were the rule in his day from the quarter-finals on.

Of course, 18 holes is the appropriate distance for everyday club golf, but at the highest levels of both the amateur and professional game, the traditional length of a match is 36 holes. All the leading matchplay championships and the University match are still decided over this distance and, until the game was driven by commercial and television interests, so were the Ryder and Walker Cup matches.

The change in these events was brought about because, until recently, they tended to be rather one-sided, with the outcome certain by midday on the final day or earlier. It is intersting to note that Mark McCormack, who could not be described as being disinterested in the commercial aspects of golf, should have respected tradition by maintaining the 36-hole format at Wentworth. He is to be congratulated.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY RAIKES,
Tower Mill,
Mark Cross,
Nr Crowborough,
East Sussex.

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هيكل امن الاهرام

Confident air emanates from Halling's camp

FROM RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT, IN NEW YORK

NOT so much as a single crow had emanated from the cockerels who outnumber the horses stabled in Belmont Park's backstretch when Sheikh Mohammed and a fleet of Lincoln limousines swept through the racecourse gates before dawn yesterday.

At 6.15am, when most trainers were still rubbing the sleep out of their eyes, the jeans-clad Crown Prince of Dubai marched onto the track and pronounced: "There will be no excuses."

If Halling was wired into the performance-enhancing adrenalin flowing through Sheikh Mohammed's veins the outcome of tomorrow's $3 million Breeders' Cup Classic would be a foregone conclusion. Cigar and company might as well stay at home. The kick provided by group one and classic success all summer long is clearly proving addictive and Godolphin's mastermind is now relishing the prospect of enjoying the ultimate fix in racing — by winning the most valuable race in the United States.

One of the prerequisites of being a racehorse trainer is the ability to explain away defeats, expected or unforeseen, but as Halling enjoyed a canter round the training track Sheikh Mohammed was having none of it. "No excuses," he repeated time after time. "Halling is in good shape. He has travelled well, he's eating and is healthy. If he is good enough he will do it, unless he meets a better horse. He's here for the game and we have come to battle."

Leaning against the running rail, he even ruled out the possibility of blaming the dirt track for defeat, though Halling's only experience of the surface has been at Nad Al Sheba in Dubai, which is more sandy. "You can't bring a horse here and then say he doesn't handle the dirt," he said a la André Fabre.

"We will take him [Cigar] on here and, win or lose, we would love to take him on again on our home ground," the Sheikh added, referring to the first running of the $4 million Dubai World Cup next March.

As he wandered off with a phalanx of acolytes towards the track kitchen for breakfast, most of the other European horses took it in turns to stretch out on the grass or dirt. When trainers and connections analysed their respective chances there was, for once, a refreshing whiff of realism in the air.

"You know how it is," John Hammond, the British-born trainer based in Chantilly, said. "The difference between what everyone is saying a day or two before the Breeders' Cup and what actually happens can be considerable."

His matter-of-fact view may have been influenced by Cherokee Rose having lost 16 kilos during the journey to New York, in addition to her summer coat. Although the contender in the Mile has regained about 12 kilos the omens do not look good.

Michael Stoute was also keeping his feet on terra firma over the chances of Soviet Line in the same race. "We are hopeful of being in the first four," he said after watching the Lockinge Stakes winner work for a quarter mile on the turf track.

Before taking Harayir on the inner turf track for a six-furlong spin, Willie Carson expressed concern about her outside draw (13 of 14). When he returned he was even more worried. "The ground is too slow," he complained.

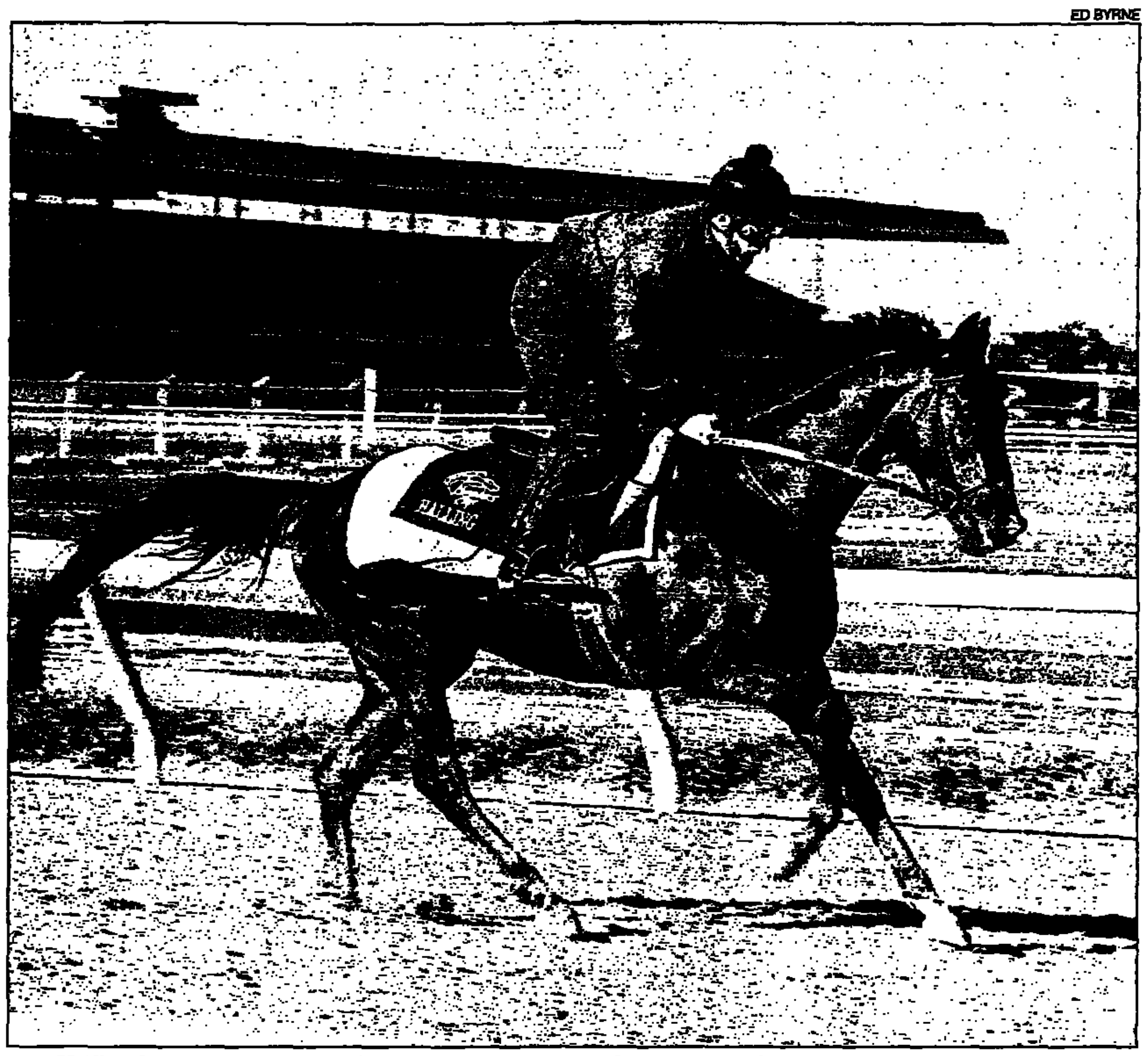
Although the outer turf track, which will be used tomorrow, is a faster surface, jockeys were still describing it as being on the soft side of good. With rain forecast over the next 24 hours, that could hinder the chances of the fast-ground loving 1,000 Guineas winner — but boost the prospects of Ridgewood Pearl.

While Frankie Dettori partnered Owington and Sayyedati, and Jason Weaver enthused about Hever Golf Rose — "it was a bit like trying to stop a train" — there was one significant absentee from yesterday's proceedings.

Namely André Fabre, who saddles Carnegie and Freedom Cry in the Turf, and Poplar Bluff in the Mile. Perhaps the king of European trainers did not want to steal the thunder of the Crown Prince.

Nap: DARAYDAN
(2.40 Newmarket)
Next best: Alkateb
(2.05 Newmarket)

ED BYRNE



Halling does a steady canter on the dirt track in preparation for his clash with Cigar in the Breeders' Cup Classic

THUNDERER

1.00 Farhana
1.30 Astuti
2.05 Alkateb
2.40 Daraydan
3.15 Ayunli
3.50 **DANDE FLYER** (nap)
4.25 Princess Danielle

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.50 **DANDE FLYER**.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.00 **FARHANA** (nap). 2.05 Quandary. 2.40 Saleel.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

1.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND RED LODGE MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,620: 6f) (8 runners)

1	(1)		BALLYMONEY (W O'Gorman) W O'Gorman 9-0	Emma O'Gorman	—
2	(6)		CERDAN (M Tabor) M Stoute 9-0	J Reid	—
3	(2)		NEEDLE MATCH (P Pritchard) C Wall 9-0	G Duffield	—
4	(8)	44524	OCEAN STREAM 23 (M Gleeson) J Eyre 9-0	D McKeown	83
5	(5)	00	RET FREM 9 (Mrs A Green) M Jarvis 9-0	P Robinson	84
6	(7)	0	SEA DANZIG 9 (P Cook) P Howling 9-0	R Cochrane	—
7	(4)	0	WHITE PLAINS 29 (Dain Ltd) M Bell 9-0	M Fenton	—
8	(3)	2	FARHANA 9 (A Foustok) W Jarvis 8-9	T Quinn	[illegible]

BETTING: 6-4 Cerdan, 9-4 Farhana, 7-1 Ocean Stream, 8-1 Ret Frem, Ballymoney, 12-1 others.

1994: BLUE OCEAN 9-0 W R Swinburn (2-1) M Stoute 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

CERDAN half-brother by Zilzal to 1m/1¼m winner Marksmanship; dam maiden. NEEDLE MATCH by Royal Academy; dam 7f/1m winner. OCEAN STREAM 1¾l 2nd of 4 to Mezcomir in maiden at Hamilton (6f, good) on penultimate start. FARHANA 1¾l 2nd of 5 to Tamhid in conditions race at Yarmouth (6f, good to firm).
Selection: FARHANA (nap)

1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS SOHAM HOUSE CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £5,156: 1m) (5 runners)

1	(3)	154513	BELIEVE ME 6 (F,G) (B Adams) R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill (5)	90
2	(5)	182	BULLFINCH 20 (F) (R Cooper) P Walwyn 8-11	D Harrison	93
3	(2)		CANDLE SMOKE (A Speelman) G Harwood 8-11	T Quinn	—
4	(4)		NORTHERN FLEET (K Abdulla) G Harwood 8-11	A Clark	—
5	(1)	010326	ASTUTI 6 (F) (Mrs D Bosley) A Jarvis 8-6	J Tate	[illegible]

BETTING: 9-4 Bullfinch, 11-4 Believe Me, 7-2 Astuti, 9-2 Candle Smoke, 5-1 Northern Fleet.

1994: PIPE MAJOR 8-13 J Weaver (11-4) P Haslam 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BELIEVE ME 5¼l 3rd of 5 to Henry The Fifth at Newbury (1m, good to soft). BULLFINCH beat colt Polar Prince 2½l in 12-runner maiden at Sandown (7f, good to firm). CANDLE SMOKE by Woodman; dam smart French 1½m winner. NORTHERN FLEET brother to 9l winner Alongside; dam maiden half-sister to a top-class US middle-distance horse. ASTUTI head 3rd of 18 to Pacific Grove in nursery here (7f, good).
Selection: BELIEVE ME

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.05 JAMES SEYMOUR STAKES
(Listed race: £11,873: 1m 2f) (4 runners)

1	(1)	4-04211	JAGELLON 8 (D,S) (D Deer) W Muir 4-9-0	T Quinn	85
2	(4)	1312	ALKATEB 28 (F) (S May) Miss G Kelleway 3-8-9	R Cochrane	93
3	(3)	202101	QUANDARY 20 (D,F,S) (K Abdulla) H Cecil 4-8-9	W Ryan	[illegible]
4	(2)	166041	STAR OF ZILZAL 32 (F,G) (M Al Maktoum) M Stoute 3-8-9	J Reid	96

BETTING: 6-4 Star Of Zilzal, 2-1 Quandary, 11-4 Alkateb, 7-1 Jagellon.

1994: VELVET MOON 3-8-4 W Carson (8-1) P Cole 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

JAGELLON beat Kings Assembly 1¾l in 22-runner handicap at Newbury (1m 2f, good to soft). Previously beat Gamby Bell by head in handicap at Chepstow (1m 4f 23yd, good to soft). ALKATEB 4l 2nd of 20 to Nigel's Lad in handicap over course and distance (good). QUANDARY beat Romios 2l in 14-runner handicap at Ascot (1m 2f, soft). STAR OF ZILZAL beat Desert Green ½l in 6-runner conditions race at Bath (1m, good to firm).
Selection: QUANDARY

2.40 GEORGE STUBBS RATED HANDICAP
(Listed race: £11,053: 2m) (7 runners)

1	(6)	255341	OLD ROUVEL 7 (D,F,G) (Mrs R Cowell) D Murray Smith 4-9-7	M Hills	90
2	(3)	63-2020	SHONARA'S WAY 13 (C,G,S) (Mrs A Chandris) R Charlton 4-8-7	J Reid	[illegible]
3	(2)	610216	LATAHAAB 27 (C,D,F,S) (Ascot Partners) R Akehurst 4-8-7	T Quinn	95
4	(7)	504533	TETHYS 23 (F) (M Gleeson) J Eyre 4-8-7	D McKeown	86
5	(5)	119044	DARAYDAN 15 (G) (P Savill) Lady Herries 3-8-4	K Darley	97
6	(4)	421125	SALEEL 13 (F) (A Al Maktoum) A Stewart 3-8-1	R Hills	98
7	(1)	231151	KRISTAL'S PARADISE 27 (D,F,G) (Windflower) J Dunlop 3-7-11	J Quinn	95

Long handicap: Latahaab 8-5, Tethys 7-11.

BETTING: 3-1 Saleel, 4-1 Kristal's Paradise, 9-2 Shonara's Way, Old Rouvel, 6-1 Daraydan, 7-1 Latahaab, 12-1 Tethys.

1994: FURTHER FLIGHT 8-9-7 M Hills (11-10 fav) B Hills 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

OLD ROUVEL beat Harbour Island neck in 3-runner conditions race at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good to firm). LATAHAAB beat SHONARA'S WAY (5lb better off) ¾l in 9-runner handicap here (1m 7f, good to firm) on penultimate start. TETHYS 13l 3rd of 3 to Bahamian Sunshine in conditions race at York (1m 6f, good). DARAYDAN about 2½l 4th of 10 to Naked Welcome in handicap here (1m 4f, good to firm). SALEEL neck 2nd of 8 to Grey Shot in handicap at Doncaster (1m 6f 132yd, good to firm). KRISTAL'S PARADISE (awarded race) 1¾l 2nd of 7 to Seasonal Splendour (disqualified and placed last) in handicap at Goodwood (2m, good) with SHONARA'S WAY (promoted to 2nd) (6lb better off) 4l 3rd, DARAYDAN (promoted to 4th) (4lb better off) 3¾l 4th and LATAHAAB (promoted to 6th) (2lb better off) 16½l 6th.
Selection: OLD ROUVEL

3.15 NGK SPARK PLUGS FILLIES HANDICAP
(£5,283: 1m 4f) (24 runners)

1	(3)	126411	AYUNLI 22 (D,F,G) (I Southcott) S Williams 4-9-10	K Darley	95
2	(8)	6-0611	SNOW PRINCESS 10 (D,S) (Lord Weinstock) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-8 (4ex)	R Hills	[illegible]
3	(21)	140400	NO COMEBACKS 11 (D,F,S) (L Snowden) E Alston 7-9-6	J Carroll	91
4	(5)	0125-00	FAILTE RO 8 (S) (Mrs P Conningham) J Banks 3-9-2	A Whelan (5)	85
5	(23)	203330	HATTAAFEH 17 (G) (M Jarvis) M Jarvis 4-9-1	W Woods	89
6	(14)	220232	DOUCE MAISON 52 (G) (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 4-9-0	J Tate	98
7	(18)	402300	PASS MARK 13 (Lord Hopetoun) J Fanshawe 3-8-13	W Ryan	96
8	(22)	042000	QUEENS STROLLER 42 (G) (R Bensted) C Elsey 4-8-12	M Hills	96
9	(13)	031510	TIROLETTE 56 (B,D,BF,G,S) (R Morris Jr) R Williams 3-8-12	R Cochrane	94
10	(19)	324153	RUBY HEIGHTS 30 (F) (G Shropshire) R Hannon 4-8-11	Dane O'Neill (5)	95
11	(12)	00003	LIDHAMA 11 (A Al Khalda) G Lewis 3-8-11	S Whitworth	98
12	(4)	0-04042	PAT'S SPLENDOUR 14 (F) (Mrs P Lunn) H Collingridge 4-8-6	M Rimmer	93
13	(15)	506003	COLLEGE NIGHT 8 (Mrs C Dunnett) C Dwyer 3-8-4	P McCabe (3)	98
14	(20)	000-000	EAST SHEEN 120 (D Turner) C Benstead 3-8-3	G Duffield	83
15	(6)	000-0	LA BRIEF 30 (Four Jays Racing) M Ryan 3-8-2	M Baird (5)	92
16	(17)	022103	ALL THE JOYS 11 (S) (Mrs G Gooderham) C Cyzer 4-8-2	D Biggs	97
17	(11)	504	MARUTA 32 (J Sheehan) J Sheehan 3-8-0	P P Murphy (5)	90
18	(1)	013050	PERSIAN SMOKE 43 (F) (Mrs A Normand) A Hide 4-7-13	M Henry (5)	96
19	(16)	034160	FRESH LOOK 22 (G) (J Purcell) R Spicer 3-7-12	N Varley (3)	95
20	(24)	524605	EMMA GRIMES 11 (J Grimes) J Moore 4-7-12	J F Egan	90
21	(9)	062635	BOBBY'S DREAM 25 (Mrs P Kalman) M Tompkins 3-7-11	Dale Gibson	90
22	(10)	631130	MASURI KABISA 39 (V,D,BF,F) (N Eaches) H Collingridge 4-7-11	J Quinn	92
23	(7)	615350	COMTEC'S LEGEND 14 (D,F,G) (Qualitair Holdings) J Bottomley 5-7-8	J Lowe	80
24	(2)	200-254	SMOCKING 45 (M Baxter) J Pearce 5-7-7	G Bardwell	89

BETTING: 7-1 Snow Princess, 8-1 Ruby Heights, 10-1 Lidhama, Ayunli, Douce Maison, 12-1 Hattaafeh, Pat's Splendour, 14-1 others.

1994: SPRING SIXPENCE 4-9-0 W Woods (12-1) J Fanshawe 27 ran

FORM FOCUS

AYUNLI beat Harry Browne short-head in 21-runner apprentices handicap at York (1m 4f, good to firm) with FRESH LOOK (8lb better off) about 28l 16th. SNOW PRINCESS beat Fabillion 2l in 18-runner handicap at Chepstow (1m 4f, soft). NO COMEBACKS 8l 8th of 17 to Our Main Man in handicap at Pontefract (1m 2f, firm).
HATTAAFEH best recent effort about 11¼l 6th of 17 to Credit Squeeze in handicap at Brighton (1m 4f, good). PASS MARK best recent effort when beating 3¼l 3rd of 13 to Emily-Mou in conditions race at Nottingham (1m 2f, good to soft). RUBY HEIGHTS best recent effort when beating Broughton's Pride ¾l in 9-runner apprentices maiden handicap at Beverley (1m 2f, good to firm). LIDHAMA 3¼l 3rd of 15 to Dr Edgar in handicap at Folkestone (1m 1f 149yd, good).
Selection: SNOW PRINCESS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
R Charlton	22	102	21.6	Dane O'Neill	4	25	16.0
H Cecil	59	302	19.5	J D Smith	3	22	13.6
E Alston	5	31	16.1	J Weaver	20	150	13.3
P Walwyn	12	94	12.8	J Lowe	9	74	12.2
G Lewis	10	80	12.5	M Hills	36	331	10.9
M Stoute	41	337	12.2	R Hughes	5	46	10.9

☐ Polaris Flight, the Peter Chapple-Hyam-trained juvenile, was the only British acceptor at yesterday's forfeit stage for the group one Criterium de Saint-Cloud in Paris on Sunday. On the same card, Penny Drops (Lord Huntingdon) and Sue's Artiste (Barry Hills) were left in the group three Prix de Flore.

3.50 POTTER NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £4,347: 5f) (8 runners)

1	(1)	51121	SWYNFORD DREAM 14 (D,F,G) (Qualitair Holdings) J Bottomley 9-7	J Lowe	90
2	(3)	034322	AMY LEIGH 13 (D,G) (J Hacking) J Wilson 9-4	G Carter	82
3	(7)	1523	PLAYMAKER 35 (D,S) (R Hughes) J Berry 9-1	J Carroll	88
4	(8)	036014	THAI MORNING 34 (D,F) (Thai Connection) P Harris 8-7	G Hind	90
5	(2)	02610	ANTONIAS MELODY 6 (S) (Mrs B Georgiou) S Bowring 8-6	C Teague (5)	95
6	(4)	033020	U-NO-HARRY 23 (D,F) (D Coppenhall) R Hollinshead 8-5	M Henry (5)	89
7	(6)	425011	DANDE FLYER 2 (D,F,G) (Dandelion Distribution) D Arbuthnot 8-3 (7ex)	B Doyle	[illegible]
8	(5)	124660	LADY CAROLINE LAMB 15 (D,F) (W Ponsonby) M Channon 7-10	F Norton	92

BETTING: 7-4 Dande Flyer, 3-1 Swynford Dream, 6-1 Thai Morning, Playmaker, Amy Leigh, 7-1 Antonias Melody, 10-1 U-No-Harry, 14-1 Lady Caroline Lamb.

1994: DOUBLE QUICK 8-11 J Weaver (5-1) M Johnston 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

SWYNFORD DREAM beat Cammonneur 1½l in 18-runner handicap at Catterick (5f, good to firm). AMY LEIGH 1½l 2nd of 7 to Dominelle in conditions race at Catterick (5f, good to firm).
THAI MORNING beat DANDE FLYER (4lb better off) 2l in 5-runner maiden at Folkestone (5f, good to firm). U-NO-HARRY 1l 2nd of 13 to Lunar Mist in nursery at Haydock (6f, good) on penultimate start, with PLAYMAKER head 3rd. DANDE FLYER beat Sagajulu 4l in 5-runner nursery at Yarmouth (5f, firm).
Selection: SWYNFORD DREAM

4.25 AVENUE APPRENTICE HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £4,403: 1m 1f) (19 runners)

1	(15)	2-05322	SHINING EXAMPLE 26 (D Ahier) P Makin 9-7	R Havlin (3)	87
2	(4)	0-300	RAMSDENS 29 (B Haggas) W Haggas 9-5	Elizabeth Turner (5)	91
3	(16)	600414	ALMUHTARAM 3 (B,D,F,G) (A Al-Maktoum) Miss G Kelleway 9-4	A Whelan	93
4	(10)	614000	CARE AND COMFORT 8 (C,F) (Elite Racing) K McAuliffe 9-2	A Daly (3)	85
5	(5)	0040F2	BATTLESHIP BRUCE 11 (B,S) (T Foreman) N Callaghan 9-1	Dane O'Neill	[illegible]
6	(8)	442415	WET PATCH 52 (BF,F) (P Hammond) R Hannon 9-1	Mark Denaro (3)	91
7	(19)	031531	PRINCESS DANIELLE 30 (F,S) (Mrs M Wickham) C Elsey 8-12	J D Smith	94
8	(18)	210200	OUR TOM 18 (G) (J Berry) J Wharton 8-12	M Baird	86
9	(11)	653210	HARVEY WHITE 30 (F) (Harvey White Partners) J Pearce 8-10	M Natter (5)	98
10	(1)	050400	MISS JEMMIMA 28 (Mrs J Hislop) Lord Huntingdon 8-8	M Henry	89
11	(7)	003000	AUTUMN COVER 18 (B) (G Alexander) R Flower 8-4	L Newton	88
12	(14)	0-00435	ROCKUSA 18 (Deja Vu) P Hedger 8-1	D Griffiths	98
13	(13)	2-0000	BAKHETA 8 (Miss L Vollaro) K Ivory 7-13	Martin Dwyer (3)	92
14	(12)	022640	KELLAIRE GIRL 9 (D Purches) G Lewis 7-12	P Fessey (3)	93
15	(3)	0000	FERN'S GOVERNOR 43 (Fern Components) W Musson 7-12	J Wilkinson (5)	92
16	(6)	680064	PEDALTOTHEMETAL 28 (G Harris) P Mitchell 7-11	D Sweeney (5)	92
17	(9)	620534	KIROV PROTEGE 76 (G) (Group 1 Racing) H Collingridge 7-11	Jo Hunnam (5)	93
18	(2)	650004	NYALI BEACH 98 (UCL Alumni) J Scargill 7-10	P P Murphy	90
19	(17)	500305	ALPINE STORM 26 (R Sowerby) M Usher 7-7	C Adamson (3)	83

Long handicap: Alpine Storm 6-10.

BETTING: 6-1 Shining Example, 8-1 Princess Danielle, 10-1 Almuhtaram, Wet Patch, Battleship Bruce, 12-1 Our Tom, Pedaltothemetal, 14-1 others.

1994: BROUGHTON SINGER 8-3 D R McCabe (10-1) W Musson 27 ran

FORM FOCUS

SHINING EXAMPLE short-head 2nd of 9 to Snow Princess in rated stakes at Haydock (1m 2f 120yd, soft). BATTLESHIP BRUCE 1l 2nd of 15 to Dr Edgar in handicap at Folkestone (1m 1f 149yd, good). WET PATCH beat Music maker 2l in 9-runner apprentice jockeys' handicap at Kempton (1m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate start. PRINCESS DANIELLE beat Isthebusiness neck in 18-runner handicap at Salisbury (1m 2f, good to soft). MISS JEMMIMA best effort this term about 2¾l 4th of 19 to Scent of Power in apprentice jockeys' maiden handicap at Nottingham (1m, good to firm). KIROV PROTEGE about 1¾l 4th of 16 to Hunza Story in selling handicap at Ripon (1m 2f, good to firm).
Selection: BATTLESHIP BRUCE

Run Up The Flag next on Murphy's agenda

DECLAN MURPHY yesterday played down reports of his anger over the controversy surrounding his winning return to racing on Jibereen at Chepstow.

Murphy, quoted as saying he would stop riding "until all this is cleared up," said that he is looking forward to riding Josh Gifford's Run Up The Flag if the horse runs at Ascot tomorrow.

Murphy rode work at Findon yesterday and said: "I'm feeling excellent." But he added that he felt the quotes attributed to him in newspapers yesterday were taken out of context. "It's the press that have made the innuendoes," he said. "I know nothing about the allegations."

Murphy was referring to a Jockey Club investigation into circumstances surrounding the Chepstow race which he won on his return from a life-threatening fall.

David Pipe, director of public affairs at the Jockey Club, insisted yesterday that the Club has a responsibility to look into the events surrounding the Chepstow race. "We get allegations of things going wrong all the time," Pipe said. "It may turn out that nothing untoward went on but there has been an allegation and we must look into it."

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BANGOR

THUNDERER

1.20 Faugeron. 1.50 Rectory Garden. 2.20 Trying Again. 2.55 Uncle Keeny. 3.30 Malawi. 4.05 Trecento. 4.40 Dream Ride.

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.20 OSWESTRY NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE
(£2,752: 2m 1f) (18 runners)

101	005-	BALLYDANTE 209 D Gandolfo 5-11-10	M Dwyer	—
102	000-	MOMENT OF JUSTICE 221 L Lungo 4-11-5	F Perratt (3)	—
103	3285	RAINBOW WALK 48 (B) J O'Shea 5-11-4	M A Fitzgerald	85
104		FAUGERON 15F N Tinkler 6-11-2	G McCourt	—
105	4215	FRONTIER FLIGHT 36 (BF,F) Miss L Siddall 5-11-1	E Husband (5)	95
106	23-1	PERSIAN VIEW 25 (G) K Bailey 5-11-0	R Dunwoody	[illegible]
107	05-	BEECHFIELD FLYER 319 W Clay 4-10-13	A S Smith	78
108	53-	TEMPS PERDU 398 M Pipe 4-10-13	D Bridgwater	83
109	00-	ELECTRONIC EEL 326 Miss M Milligan 5-10-12	R Guest	—
110	2	BRACKENTHWAITE 23 L Lloyd-James 5-10-11	A Maguire	94
111	3P-	CALDERVALE 328 L Barratt 5-10-10	T Kent	80
112	-U15	SCORCHED AIR 20 (BF,F) J O'Shea 5-10-9	A P McCoy	91
113	4	TECHNOLOGICAL RISK 68 D Burchell 4-10-9	D J Burchell	81
114		BELGRAN 14F (B) P Evans 6-10-8	J R Kavanagh	—
115	P-6	MITSIS 9 R Harris 4-10-7	V Smith	—
116		NORD LYS 161F B Llewellyn 4-10-7	V Slattery	—
117	3	BANDITA 22 D French Davis 4-10-6	J Magee (3)	85
118	-330	PRETTY SCARCE 22 B Preece 4-10-2	Gary Lyons	—

7-2 Persian View, 4-1 Faugeron, 5-1 Temps Perdu, 6-1 Brackenthwaite, 7-1 Frontier Flight, 8-1 Bandita, 10-1 Scorched Air, 12-1 others.

1.50 CORBETT BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,260: 2m 4f 110yd) (10)

201	436-	POSTMAN'S PATH 195 (G,S) T Forster 9-11-10	J R Kavanagh	98
202	012-	ARDCRONEY CHIEF 158 (D,G,S) D Gandolfo 9-11-7	D Leahy	94
203	324-	FAIR BROTHER 168 (G,S) G Balding 8-11-6	A P McCoy	93
204	34R1	MR ENTERTAINER 14 (D,F,G,S) N Gaselee 12-11-5	C Llewellyn	92
205	211-	RECTORY GARDEN 230 (D,S) T Forster 6-11-3	G McCourt	99
206	211-	BASILICUS 162 (D,G,S) Mrs S Smith 6-11-3	R Guest	[illegible]
207	1121	FAIRY PARK 20 (F,G,S) H Oliver 10-10-12	Jacqui Oliver	—
208	122-	TOO PLUSH 186 (D,S) A Turnell 6-10-10	L Harvey	91
209	453U-	BUCKS SURPRISE 160 (CD,G) J Mackie 7-10-10	R Supple	95
210	24/	HEY COTTAGE 568 (D,G,S) D McCain 10-10-9	D McCain	—

7-2 Mr Entertainer, 4-1 Rectory Garden, 9-2 Ardcroney Chief, 5-1 Basilicus, 6-1 Fair Brother, 8-1 Too Plush, 10-1 Fairy Park, 12-1 others.

2.20 JONES PECKOVER NOVICES CHASE
(£3,631: 2m 1f 110yd) (10)

301	42-1	SPANISH LIGHT 6 (F) G Richards 6-11-7	A Dobbin	[illegible]
302	008-	BRAMBLEBERRY 192 (G,S) Mrs S Smith 6-11-0	R Guest	—
303	3UF-	DANTES SUN 216 (S) T Forster 6-11-0	J R Kavanagh	—
304	582-	NADIAD 205 (F,S) D McCain 9-11-0	D McCain	98
305	104-	REESHLOCH 223 (S) A Turnell 6-11-0	L Harvey	—
306	3F0-	SPURIOUS 208 E Owen jun 9-11-0	R Davis	—
307	220-	TRYING AGAIN 230 (S) D Gandolfo 7-11-0	M Dwyer	—
308	001-	DESTINY CALLS 187 (F,G) N Gaselee 5-10-13	C Llewellyn	—
309		WILD BROOK Mrs S Bramall 5-10-13	J Banks	—
310	6-P2	GESNERA 22 (F,G) J O'Shea 7-10-9	M A Fitzgerald	93

6-4 Spanish Light, 4-1 Trying Again, 5-1 Brambleberry, 7-1 Nadiad, 10-1 Gesnera, 12-1 Dantes Sun, 14-1 Destiny Calls, 16-1 others.

2.55 NEILSON COBBOLD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,708: 2m 4f) (10)

401	P30-	BETTER BYTHE GLASS 203 (S) N Twiston-Davies 6-12-0	S Joynes (3)	90
402	6-13	ADRIEN 6 (B,BF,F,S) Mrs S Bramall 7-11-8 (7ex)	A K Smith (7)	[illegible]
403	264-	UNCLE KEENY 235 (G) J J O'Neill 5-11-4	A Roche	95
404	032-	NIKI DEE 189 P Beaumont 5-11-2	B Grattan (5)	93
405	4P-3	PATROCLUS 21 (CD,S) J Mackie 10-10-11	E Husband	94
406	100-	JOYRIDER 17F (S) Miss M Milligan 4-10-11	F Leahy	88
407	0/0	LEESWOOD 10 (B,C,F,S) R Lee 7-10-5	J Mogford (5)	—
408	0-3U	POLK 48 (G) M Pipe 6-10-5	B Moore (7)	93
409	0-P4	MR FLUTTS 24 (D,F) J Tuck 9-10-0	K Dempsey (5)	93
410	/25-	ALICANTE 391 (C,F) D McCain 8-10-0	D Walsh	85

11-4 Better Bythe Glass, 7-2 Adrien, 5-1 Niki Dee, 6-1 Patroclus, 7-1 Uncle Keeny, 8-1 Polk, 12-1 Mr Flutts, 16-1 others.

3.30 TARPORLEY HUNT HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,664: 3m 110yd) (17)

501	411-	TRIBAL RULER 235 (D,F,G,S) D McCain 10-12-0	D McCain jnr	96
502	P3-1	ROCCO 20 (G,S) S Sherwood 8-11-13	G Upton	98
503	321-	BULA NUDAY 151 (D,G,S) J Oliver 10-11-11	B Storey	98
504	1P-3	MALAWI 20 (S) W Bethell 5-11-6	A S Smith	93
505	30P-	MEDIANE 209 (G,S) M Bradstock 10-11-5	R Dunwoody	[illegible]
506	4U-F	BADBURY LAD 10 (S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 9-11-4	R Greene	93
507	0-56	PARSON'S WAY 2 (B,G) A Jones 8-11-3	G Brown	—
508	30-3	GOOD INSIGHT 20 (BF,S) C Brooks 7-11-3	G Bradley	95
509	22-5	MISS FERN 7 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 10-11-1	D Meredith	93
510	P2-P	TIBER MELODY 20 (B,S) W Bethell 12-11-0	A Maguire	95
511	5UP-	SHUIL SAOR 280 (F) Mrs S Smith 8-10-11	R Guest	92
512	PSP-	CARLINGFORD BELLE 199 (S) J Needham 9-10-11	G Hogan (5)	98
513	42/	IRISH GENT 590 (F) P Beaumont 9-10-8	R Supple	—
514	PPP/	PACIFIC SOUND 622P (G,S) Mrs S Smith 12-10-7	L Donnelly (7)	—
515	/34	PENARTH 8 (F) R Price 9-10-0	T Jenks	89
516	4334	GILBERT 14 (F) D Carey 7-10-0	B Powell	90
517	-425	ACHILTIBUIE 14 (F) F Yardley 11-10-0	D Gallagher	98

7-2 Rocco, 5-1 Bula Nuday, 6-1 Good Insight, 7-1 Tribal Ruler, Malawi, 8-1 Mediane, 10-1 Badbury Lad, 12-1 others.

4.05 STANLEY LEISURE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,879: 2m 1f) (10)

601	24-2	KAITAK 20 (G) J Carr 4-11-13	D Gallagher	92
602	256-	FOOLS ERRAND 212 (D,S) G Balding 5-11-8	A P McCoy	[illegible]
603	01F-	JYMJAM JOHNNY 189 (S) J J O'Neill 6-11-8	M Dwyer	90
604	013-	TWICE A NIGHT 181 (F) D Nicholson 6-11-8	A Maguire	91
605	/06-	HABASHA 189 (D,G,S) [illegible] 5-10-13	D Bridgwater	—
606	5222	INNOCENT GEORGE 9 (D,BF,F,G) Miss L Siddall 6-10-12	R Dunwoody	97
607	521/	SHANAKEE 545 (F) B Llewellyn 8-10-11	Mr J L Llewellyn	—
608	/4-5	QUICK SILVER BOY 20 (G) D Burchell 5-10-9	Mrs E J Jones (7)	91
609	321-	TRECENTO 148 (F) J Mackie 4-10-1	W Marston	91
610	3/0F	SHEEP STEALER 21 (G) R Peacock 7-10-0	Chris Webb (5)	—

5-2 Innocent George, 3-1 Fools Errand, 5-1 Twice A Night, 7-1 Kaitak, 8-1 Jymjam Johnny, 10-1 Trecento, 12-1 others.

4.40 TRIPLEPRINT OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,774: 2m 1f) (18)

1		A FEW DOLLARS MORE H Oliver 5-11-4	Philip Hughes (7)	—
2		AVONHAT J J O'Neill 5-11-4	R McGrath (7)	—
3	3-	BARONET 244 D Nicholson 5-11-4	Mr R Johnson (5)	—
4		BAYMATIC Mrs J Pitman 6-11-4	S Knott (7)	—
5		CRAMPSCASTLE N Chance 5-11-4	R Dunwoody	—
6		DESERT BRAVE Mrs S Smith 5-11-4	R Guest	—
7		DREAM RIDE D Nicholson 5-11-4	R Massey (5)	—
8		FOLLOW DE CALL D McCain 5-11-4	D McCain	—
9	6-	GRATE DEEL 235 P Beaumont 5-11-4	B Grattan (7)	—
10		MAHLER N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4	M Keighley (7)	—
11		MISTER MOROSE N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4	S Joynes (7)	—
12		RIVERDALE BOY J J O'Neill 5-11-4	A Roche (3)	—
13		ALLOW B Llewellyn 4-11-3	D Matthews (5)	—
14		BLAZING DOVE R Price 4-11-3	A P McCoy	—
15	30-	EL CORDOBES 174 W Jenks 4-11-3	T Jenks	—
16		ROOSECOTE R Fisher 4-11-3	F Leahy (3)	—
17		KUDOS PRINCESS Mrs A Naughton 5-10-13	A Dobbin	—
18	42-4	MISS BRECKNELL 20 Mrs J Pitman 6-10-13	Mr M McGrath (7)	—

4-1 Dream Ride, 5-1 Mahler, 6-1 Mister Morose, Baronet, 7-1 Miss Brecknell, 8-1 Crampscastle, 10-1 Dream Ride, 12-1 Baymatic, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Brooks, 5 winners from 14 runners, 35.7%; D Nicholson, 8 from 23, 34.8%; K Bailey, 7 from 22, 31.8%; R Dickin, 8 from 27, 29.6%; M Pipe, 19 from 67, 28.4%; N Twiston-Davies, 15 from 61, 24.6%.

JOCKEYS: Jacqui Oliver, 5 winners from 9 rides, 55.6%; F Leahy, 4 from 10, 40%; R Dunwoody, 25 from 78, 32.1%; R Guest, 5 from 19, 26.3%; C Llewellyn, 8 from 39, 20.5%; G Bradley, 5 from 27, 18.5%.

O'Brien reaches 200

AIDAN O'BRIEN became the first trainer in the history of Irish racing to saddle 200 winners in a year when Kaldan Khan won the Rathmore Hurdle at Punchestown yesterday from the former top-class Flat performer, Silver Wisp. "Kaldan Khan is a horse with a future," O'Brien said.

WETHERBY

THUNDERER

1.40 Simply Dashing. 2.10 Supertop. 2.45 Hit The Canvas. 3.20 Wind Force. 3.55 Gale Ahead. 4.30 South Westerly.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.40 LINTON NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,966: 2m) (7 runners)

1		APRIL WILLOW M Wilkinson 6-10-10	P Crowley (7)
2	/0	CATAKIL 16 Mrs S Smith 6-10-10	R Wilkinson (7)
3	65-2	LINLATHEN 31 (BF) Mrs M Reveley 5-10-10	P Niven
4	2-	MIDDAY BLUES 148 O Sherwood 6-10-10	J A McCarthy
5	00-5	PERSUASIVE TALENT 20 D Lamb 4-10-9	Mr A Manners (7)
6	23-2	SIMPLY DASHING 16 M H Easterby 4-10-9	L Wyer
7	S0-	GALLANTS DELIGHT 321 M Barnes 5-10-5	P Waggott

6-4 Simply Dashing, 7-4 Linlathen, 3-1 Midday Blues, 16-1 others.

2.10 WETHERBY NOVICES CHASE
(£4,216: 2m) (2)

1	0F2-	GRUNDON 184 Mrs L Taylor 8-11-1	A Thornton
2	244-	SUPERTOP 14F L Lungo 7-11-1	T Reed

4-7 Supertop, 6-4 Grundon.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: A Turnell, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; Mrs M Reveley, 39 from 137, 28.5%; G Richards, 21 from 108, 19.4%; M H Easterby, 22 from 123, 17.9%; J Hellens, 4 from 26, 15.4%.

JOCKEYS: S McNeill, 3 winners from 10 rides, 30.0%; P Niven, 39 from 149, 26.2%; L Wyer, 29 from 135, 21.5%; D Byrne, 7 from 45, 15.6%; D Bentley, 5 from 43, 11.6%; J Callaghan, 7 from 65, 10.8%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Bangor: 1.20 Belgran, Rainbow Walk. 2.55 Leeswood. Wetherby: 3.55 Constant Amusement.

2.45 GREEN HAMMERTON HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,906: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1	-111	HIT THE CANVAS 27 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-10	P Niven
2	41-5	MASTER OF TROY 20 (V,D,F,G,S) C Parker 7-11-9	D Parker (3)
3	100-	NORTHUMBRIAN KING 195 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs K Walton 9-11-6	J Callaghan
4	23-4	INGLETONIAN 16 (S) B Wilkinson 6-11-5	D Bentley
5	24-1	NAHRI 20 (G,S) J Mackie 4-11-3	T Eley
6	3-P6	MEMORABLE 18 (D,G,S) J Hetherton 4-11-1	D Byrne

2-1 Hit The Canvas, 3-1 Nahri, 4-1 Master Of Troy, 5-1 Ingletonian, 7-1 Northumbrian King, 16-1 Memorable

3.20 HARRY WHARTON MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,367: 2m) (4)

1	-RF1	WIND FORCE 13 (C,D,F,G) G Richards 10-12-0	J Railton
2	45-3	BEAUCADEAU 16 (CD,F,G) M Barnes 9-11-3	P Waggott
3	512-	OLD BRIDGE 230 (G,S) A Turnell 7-10-12	S McNeill
4	243-	CROSS CANNON 189 (F,G) J Hellens 9-10-9	A Thornton

5-4 Wind Force, 7-4 Beaucadeau, 4-1 Old Bridge, 7-1 Cross Cannon.

3.55 TOCKWITH NOVICES CHASE
(£4,549: 3m 110yd) (4)

1	3-21	GALE AHEAD 13 (F) G Moore 5-11-4	N Bentley
2	1P-P	KIDLAW 13 (F,S) W Reed 7-11-1	T Reed
3	4-4F	WOLFSVILLE 9 D Lamb 7-11-1	Mr A Manners
4	R/	CONSTANT AMUSEMENT 985P (B) E Caine 7-10-10	Mr R Thornton

2-5 Gale Ahead, 7-2 Kidlaw, 10-1 Wolfsville, 20-1 Constant Amusement.

4.30 HORNSHAW CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,693: 3m 1f) (4)

1	4-41	SOUTH WESTERLY 18 (CD,F) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-10	G Lee
2	0/6	HERBALIST 18 (G) J Hellens 6-10-8	S Taylor (3)
3	-P63	MURID 13 (B) D Lamb 6-10-4	G Cahill (3)
4	440-	OWENS QUEST 195 T Etherington 5-10-3	R Rourke (7)

1-2 South Westerly, 9-2 Murid, 8-1 Owens Quest, 10-1 Herbalist.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Nottingham

Going: good to firm

1.20 (6f 15yd) 1, Akalim (R Hills, 12-1); 2, Erupt (9-1); 3, Vax New Way (16-1). Mullagh Hill Lad 9-2 fav. 14 ran. Nk, 2l. D Morley. Tote: £16.30; £3.90, £3.70, £5.00. DF: £195.80. Trio: £137.00. CSF: £109.74. Tricast: £1,565.34

1.50 (6f 15yd) 1, Lay The Blame (T Quinn, 9-2); 2, Mutamanni (8-13 fav); 3, Carmarthen Bay (66-1). 10 ran. Hd, 9l. W Jarvis. Tote: £6.50; £7.10, £1.10, £9.30. DF: £4.20. Trio: £111.20. CSF: £7.75

2.20 (1m 1f 213yd) 1, Main Offender (W Ryan, 5-2; Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Dreams End (14-1); 3, South Sea Bubble (20-1). Bint Zamayem 7-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Campaign, Karaikeya. Hd, 4l. H Cecil. Tote: £3.30; £1.30, £3.60, £6.70. DF: £24.50. Trio: £276.90. CSF: £32.03.

2.50 (1m 54yd) 1, Censor (W Ryan, 4-1); 2, Tasdik (10-11 fav); 3, Altenza (25-1). 10 ran. NR: Persuasion. 1¾l, 5l. H Cecil. Tote: £3.90; £1.40, £1.10, £11.50. DF: £2.70. Trio: £81.20. CSF: £7.97

3.20 (1m 54yd) 1, Dance Star (Emma O'Gorman, 12-1); 2, Bullpen Belle (20-1); 3, Pencilled In (9-4 fav). 11 ran. 2¼l, 1¾l. M Jarvis. Tote: £45.40; £4.60, £4.40, £1.10. DF: £274.50. Trio: £300.90. CSF: £190.54.

3.50 (1m 6f 15yd) 1, Cuango (M Henry, 7-2 fav); 2, Fabillion (8-1); 3, Quest Again (14-1); 4, Harry Welsh (12-1). 16 ran. NR: Full Quiver, Pepitist, Thrower. 1l, ¾l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £3.60; £1.10, £2.80, £5.10, £3.10. DF: £17.60. Trio: £136.90. CSF: £25.50. Tricast: £254.90.

4.20 (1m 54yd) 1, Bellateena (J Quinn, 25-1); 2, Cuban Reef (11-1); 3, Super High (16-1); 4, Barrel Of Hope (6-1). Hatta Breeze 11-4 fav. 20 ran. Sh hd, sh hd. H Collingridge. Tote: £59.60; £7.70, £1.80, £3.70, £1.80. DF: £172.60. Trio: £527.50. CSF: £284.53. Tricast: £4,135.24.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £3,884.97 carried forward to Bangor today.)

Placepot: £105.70. Quadpot: £37.00.

Sedgefield

Going: good to firm (firm in places)

1.10 (2m 1½f hdle) 1, Candid Lad (B Storey, 6-1); 2, Palace River (7-2 jf); 3, Mhemeanles (7-2 jf). 10 ran. 3l, 3½l. F Storey. Tote: £5.50; £1.90, £1.80, £1.90. DF: £5.70. Trio: £38.00. CSF: £25.55. Tricast: £76.94.

1.40 (3m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Classic Statement (S Taylor, 11-4); 2, Andros Gale (11-4); 3, Adrien (Evens fav). 4 ran. Nk, 20l. J Hellens. Tote: £4.00. DF: £4.90. CSF: £9.61

2.10 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Val De Rama (P Niven, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Souson (5-2 jt-fav); 3, Blooming Spring (12-1). 7 ran. 2l, 2½l. Denys Smith. Tote: £2.70; £1.60, £2.00. DF: £3.90. CSF: £8.50.

2.40 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Old Ale (L O'Hara, 14-1); 2, Camptosaurus (10-11 fav); 3, Amber Holly (7-4). 5 ran. 1¼l, 3¾l. J Curtis. Tote: £14.80; £3.10, £1.30. DF: £15.00. CSF: £26.64.

3.10 (2m 5f ch) 1, Kelpie The Celt (L O'Hara, 11-10 fav); 2, Go Again (5-2); 3, Supervision (16-1). 4 ran. Dist, dist. Mrs D Thomson. Tote: £1.60. DF: £2.10. CSF: £3.93

3.40 (3m 3f ch) 1, Iffeee (Mr R Johnson, 5-4 fav); 2, Prince Yaze (5-1); 3, Coup De Cath-enne (9-2). 6 ran. 2½l, 5l. P Bowen. Tote: £2.50, £1.70, £3.10. DF: £6.20. CSF: £8.50.

4.10 (2m 1f 110yd flat) 1, Magslad (A Roche, 1-12 fav); 2, One More Bill (16-1); 3, Condhame (20-1). 4 ran. 3l, 10l. J J O'Neill. Tote: £1.20. DF: £1.90. CSF: £2.38

Placepot: £93.40. Quadpot: £2.80.

Stratford

Going: good

1.30 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Swing Quartet (C Llewellyn, 11-1); 2, Samlee (8-13 fav); 3, Three Saints (8-1). 9 ran. NR: Bangabunny. ¾l, 15l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £13.30; £1.50, £1.40, £1.90. DF: £9.20. Trio: £17.40. CSF: £17.81

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Take Two (A Maguire, 3-1); 2, Sophism (5-6 fav); 3, Dragonmist (66-1). 12 ran. 3l, 15l. J White. Tote: £3.60; £1.20, £1.30, £14.80. DF: £3.40. Trio: £119.70. CSF: £6.03.

2.30 (3m 4f ch) 1, Over The Stream (T J Murphy, 7-2); 2, Romany Creek (11-10 fav); 3, Special Account (11-1). 7 ran. Nk, 15l. K Bailey. Tote: £5.00; £2.30, £1.30. DF: £3.80. CSF: £7.78

3.00 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Silver Standard (S Wynne, 15-2); 2, Morstock (6-1); 3, Basket Hero (14-1). Trippiano 9-2 fav. 14 ran. ¾l, 4l. T Forster. Tote: £9.30; £2.60, £2.60, £5.20. DF: £30.10. Trio: £196.80. CSF: £51.24. Tricast: £575.61

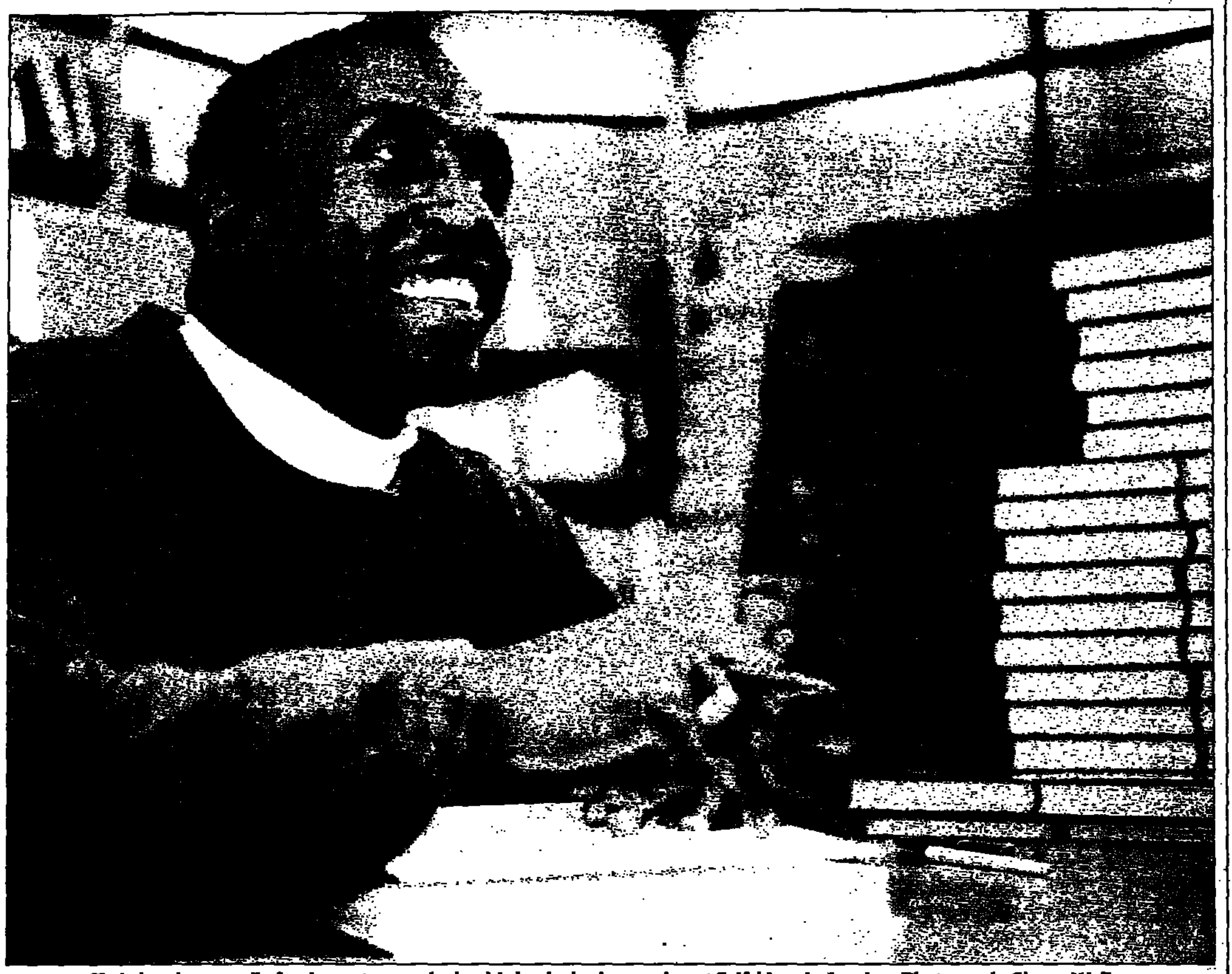
3.30 (2m 1½f ch) 1, Front Street (G Bradley, 7-2); 2, Young Pokey (20-1); 3, Belstone Fox (2-1). 4 ran. 20l, 15l. S Sherwood. Tote: £3.70. DF: £16.00. CSF: £29.23.

4.00 (2m 6½f hdle) 1, Goldenswift (A P McCoy, 7-2); 2, Millmount (9-4); 3, Mr Primetime (5-4 fav). 8 ran. NR: Buckmen, Hal's Prince. 1¾l, 13l. G Balding. Tote: £3.90; £1.40, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £7.40. Trio: £1.60. CSF: £11.58.

4.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Dark Nightingale (J A McCarthy, 5-2 fav); 2, Flashman (6-1); 3, Pleasure Trick (13-2). 16 ran. ¾l, ¾l. O Sherwood. Tote: £4.60; £3.10, £2.10, £2.10. DF: £30.80. Trio: £134.80. CSF: £24.60. Tricast: £117.80.

Placepot: £43.20. Quadpot: £58.00.

Christie the author quick to make his mark



Christie raises a smile for the customers during his book-signing session at Selfridges in London. Photograph: Simon Walker

He is a star: world and Olympic gold medal-winner, sprinter of genius and his book is called *To Be Honest With You* because, in Linford Christie's words: "It does sum up how I try to be."

Well, umm. According to the publishers, the book is by a ghost writer called Maurice Hamilton who manages to get a mention in the sixth and final verse of a poem called *Acknowledgements.*

To Ali, Sue and the "Nuff" Respect crew
Maurice, Diane, Stan, Mark and Jon too
Respect and thanks to you is due
Thank you.

The above lyrics were almost certainly composed by the great man himself for, on page 258, in a chapter headed *Where To From Here*, is writ: "I have been good [at poetry] since my school days. I write quite a bit. It's just a knack . . . if, say, I am in a hotel room it is no problem to compose a few verses."

FREUD ON FRIDAY

Christie also holds distinctive views — like "I believe in God; I don't accept Darwin's theory of evolution" and "in my small way I would like to think that I bring nations together". Then there is: "When I see guys in their twenties still living at home I tell them to get out and accept their responsibilities." Christie left home when he was 23. Profiles about the man have homed in on his prickliness, his resentment of journalists who claim that his unique sense of balance is the consequence of having a chip on each shoulder.

Earlier this week, Christie was billed to appear at a signing session in the book department of Selfridges — 12.30-1.30. When we arrived, there was a small crowd of putative book buyers standing in a straggly line to the left of a desk bearing a pile of books depicting the famous face on the dust-cover. Two private security people stood in attendance. I asked whether they were armed; they were not. Were they expecting trouble? No. A brace of representatives from the publishers mingled with book department sales staff and, on the public address system, they spoke highly of the "delicious fare in the third-floor cafe" — but then, they would.

A man standing near the Delia Smith Winter Collection book-mountain announced that Christie was now ten minutes late: in this time, he maintained, he might have run 6km had he the stamina. Soon after that, he arrived and it was clear that he had not run 6km. He came sauntering along dressed in casual grey with black suede shoes bearing gold side-buckles; he said good morning to the book department in general, sat down at the desk, asked if anyone had a pen.

Someone had a green Biro. A man with a stick was first in the queue; he leaned his stick against the desk, passed Christie the book, said: "Please put 'To David' ", received the dedication and the signature and a handshake with a hand holding the biro and left, with an ink mark on his palm but well pleased. The encounter took 29 seconds; Christie had not once looked the man in the face.

The queue moved forward: some had come to buy the book and get it autographed, some thrust forward pieces of paper for Christie to sign, others came to tell him that they drank Lucozade but still missed the bus, to shake hands, to be photographed with our hero, whose hooded eyes took it all in, gave out nothing in return.

His promotion company is called Nuff Respect; he was shown total respect and I wanted to see a glimmer of warmth in return — for it is there, somewhere.

In the book, there is a paragraph on dominoes: "In June, when others were training, I played the way black people do — our domino games are exciting. We would talk, tease each other, make up catchphrases, play with a flourish, slam the dominoes down and if the game was really tough and you knew you had the one domino which was going to win, you would get up and go to the door and then run across the table! Really good fun."

He was offered a cup of tea, declined. Business slowed, so he signed some books for customers who had left orders, spoke to no-one. The Tannoy now plugged his visit and a few more folk came. At length, it was over. He went to record an interview, then to attend another signing session at Victoria Station. I asked his minder where he would have lunch. No lunch.

The book ends with the words: "To be honest with you, I will have no complaints if people remember me as one of the best sprinters in the world."

It seems to me that the more books, poems and public appearances come our way, the harder it will be for us to remember the core product: 6ft 3in of wholly focused co-ordinated athlete, eyes blazing towards the finishing line, doing something which he did better than anyone.

Angry Agassi loses ground to Sampras

ANDRE AGASSI'S hopes of ending the season at the top of the men's tennis rankings for the first time suffered a setback yesterday when he was beaten in the Essen Open by his American compatriot, MaliVai Washington. Agassi was below par and clearly annoyed by the reaction of the German crowd as he went down 4-6, 6-1, 6-1.

The flashpoint came in the sixth game of the second set. Annoyed that the crowd had applauded a service into the net, Agassi mocked them by tapping his racket in ironic gratitude after deliberately wasting his second service.

Agassi has only a slim lead over Pete Sampras in the world rankings as the build-up continues to the world championship in Frankfurt next month. Sampras has a good chance of narrowing the gap after advancing to the quarter-finals in Essen with a 6-2, 6-4 third-round victory over Mark Woodforde, of Australia.

☐ Goran Ivanisevic, beaten in the second round by Martin Sinner, has split with Bob Brett, his coach of 4½ years.

Waqar delivers victory

CRICKET: An aggressive century by Ramiz Raja laid the foundations for Pakistan's three-run win in the opening match of their tour of Australia yesterday. Playing an Australian Cricket Board chairman's XI in a limited-overs match at Lilac Hill Park, Pakistan were bowled out for 210 before dismissing the home team for 207. Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis, the fast bowlers, played a key role, Waqar bringing the game to an end with the penultimate ball of the match, clean-bowling Dennis Lillee.

☐ Bad weather ruled out the second day of the second Test match between India and New Zealand in Madras.

Britons recover

REAL TENNIS: Chris Bray and Mike Gooding, of Britain, the world's No 1 doubles pair, reached the final of the French Open doubles championship after a thrilling fightback against Nick Wood and Adam Phillips. Bray and Gooding, the favourites, dropped the opening set 6-4 and it was only some fine retrieving by Bray, the Petworth professional, which helped to level the match at one set-all. At 4-4 in the decider, Gooding, who had won the French Open singles, his first leading title, raised his game, volleying and forcing explosively, to clinch a place in the final against Paul Tabley and Frank Filippelli, of Australia.

Morrison leads way

ICE HOCKEY: Great Britain made the best possible start to their Olympic qualifying programme when they beat Holland 4-1 at Milton Keynes on Wednesday night. The scoreline, however, does not do justice to the home side's superiority. Kevin Conway and Scott Morrison gave Britain a two-goal lead midway through the first period and two more goals came from Ashley Tait and Morrison again before Holland scored a consolation goal through Tommie Hartogs.

Bobby Riggs dies

TENNIS: Bobby Riggs, the former Wimbledon champion who became famous for his exhibition match with Billie Jean King, has died, aged 77. He died at his home in a San Diego suburb eight years after being diagnosed as having cancer. Riggs won singles titles at the US Championships, later the US Open, in 1939 and 1941, and won Wimbledon in 1939. He challenged King, then the world's best woman player, to a match in 1973. Riggs, who was 55, lost 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

Obituary, page 23

♣♠ SHEEHAN on BRIDGE ♥♦

By Robert Sheehan bridge correspondent

This is one of the few times that I have seen the Hackett twins caught speeding. It is from the BBL premier league match between Sowter and Hackett. Sensitive readers should skip straight to the Word Watching.

Dealer West **East - West game** **IMP's**

North:
♠A 10 5 3
♥Q 8 5 4
♦Q
♣9 7 5 2

West:
♠K J 4 2
♥J
♦A K 2
♣A 10 6 4 3

East:
♠Q 6
♥A K 10 7 3
♦10 6 5
♣Q J 8

South:
♠9 8 7
♥9 6 2
♦J 9 8 7 4 3
♣K

W	N	E	S
Senior	Justin	Sheehan	Jason
1♣	Pass	1♥	3♦
Double	All Pass		

Contract: Three Diamonds doubled, by South. Lead: Jack of Hearts

There was one small point in the play. The defence attacked spades early, and after three rounds of spades, three heart tricks, a club and the king of diamonds, this was the ending. West is on play.

North:
♠10
♥8
♦—
♣9 7 5

West:
♠2
♥—
♦A 2
♣10 6

East:
♠—
♥7 3
♦10 6
♣J

South:
♠—
♥—
♦J 9 8 7 4
♣—

Both defenders know that declarer has nothing left but diamonds. Should West play a spade or a club?

If Senior had played a spade I would have ruffed with the ten of diamonds, hoping to promote Senior's trump holding. As he had nothing to promote, Senior correctly exited with a club and we took two more tricks in trumps. The penalty was 1100, about what the overcall deserved — it would not look out of place in a Gilbert and George exhibition. When opponents have already opened and responded, pre-empts have much less to gain.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BLOOEY
a. An expenses chit
b. A whale
c. Awry

ETRENNE
a. Emaciated
b. A connecting train
c. A New Year present

AMBARI
a. Spaghetti sauce
b. Rope fibre
c. A double harbour entrance

ECORCHE
a. Showing muscle
b. A dressing-table mirror
c. Stuffed

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess correspondent

German teacher

Continuing my brief history of the world championship aspirants who failed in their ambition to seize the title, the German Grandmaster Dr Siegbert Tarrasch was an exception to the rule that the challenger was often defeated by the champion's superior strategy.

Tarrasch's books and lucid writings on chess in general had earned him a reputation as the teacher of the chess world. His refinement of strategic principles was second to none. When he came to challenge Lasker for the world title in 1908, Tarrasch's problem was that he could not adapt to the champion's psychological pressure, constantly shifting ground and creating situations where conventional strategic rules no longer applied.

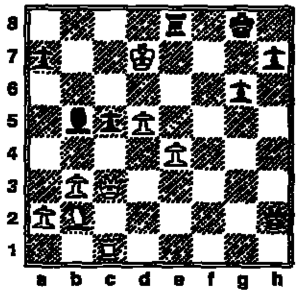
The following game, though, sees Tarrasch at his best. A logical strategic build-up leads to an explosion of energy and the sparkling sacrificial checkmate.

White: Aron Nimzowitsch
Black: Siegbert Tarrasch
St Petersburg 1914

Queen's Indian Defence

1	d4	d5
2	Nf3	c5
3	c4	e6
4	e3	Nf6
5	Bd3	Nc6
6	0-0	Bd6
7	b3	0-0
8	Bb2	b6
9	Nbd2	Bb7
10	Rc1	Qe7
11	cxd5	exd5
12	Nh4	g6
13	Nhf3	Rad8
14	dxc5	bxc5
15	Bb5	Ne4
16	Bxc6	Bxc6
17	Qc2	Nxd2
18	Nxd2	d4
19	exd4	Bxh2+
20	Kxh2	Qh4+
21	Kg1	Bxg2
22	f3	Rfe8
23	Ne4	Qh1+
24	Kf2	Bxf1
25	d5	f5
26	Qc3	Qg2+
27	Ke3	Rxe4+
28	fxe4	f4+
29	Kxf4	Rf8+
30	Ke5	Qh2+
31	Ke6	Re8+
32	Kd7	Bb5 checkmate

Diagram of final position



Championship book

All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a *Times* book, *World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand* (Batsford, £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (quote 5/655).

Staunton dinner

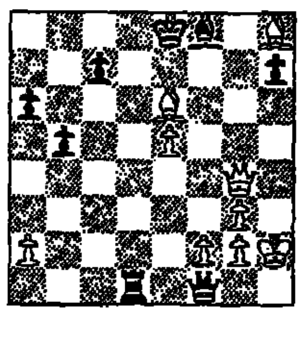
The annual dinner of the Staunton Society, which honours Britain's greatest player of the 19th century, Howard Staunton and raise money for a memorial to him at London's Kensal Green Cemetery, will be held on November 6. It will be at Simpson's-in-the-Strand and if you wish to attend please contact Barry Martin, the secretary, on 0181-995 3516.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Kasparov - Anand, Intel World Championship. Game 10 1995. White is threatened with mate but it is his turn to move. How can he deliver a checkmate first?



Solution on page 46

THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE FINAL SHOWDOWN

England against Australia – the old rivals clash again. Martin Offiah (right) leads England's charge at Wembley; and Hugh McIlvanney leads The Sunday Times **Sport** team to bring you the best coverage of the Rugby League World Cup final

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THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

[illegible]

Avery inspires Atlanta triumph

Title beckons after Braves live up to their name

FROM KEITH BLACKMORE IN CLEVELAND

WHEN the Cleveland Indians and Atlanta Braves reached the World Series this year, experienced baseball followers rejoiced at the prospect of a classic duel between a great batting team and one famed for its pitching. After four games, they have certainly had great batting and great pitching, but all of it has come from Atlanta.

On Wednesday night, the *Braves beat the Indians* here 5-2 to take a 3-1 lead in the Series and move to within one game of the championship. They may not even need to return to Atlanta to finish the job: last night, the ace in their pack, Greg Maddux, probably the best pitcher in baseball and the winner of game one, was due on the mound.

The game on Wednesday was the first to have been decided by more than one run and the suspicion that the Braves were the better all-round team finally broke into the open. Teams made of lesser stuff might have weakened after losing in 11 desperate, closely-fought innings on Tuesday, but Braves by name, brave by nature: they stopped the jubilant Indians in their tracks.

Marquis Grissom, Atlanta's lead-off batter, hit the first pitch of the night for a single and then stole second on the next. Grissom failed to get home in that inning, but he was on his way to a stellar night, getting three hits, a run and two stolen bases.

By contrast, the Indians' lead-off man, Kenny Lofton, hero of game three and virtually their only offensive threat in the Series so far, ran into a brick wall in the shape of Steve Avery, the Braves starting pitcher.

In the first three games, Lofton had six runs, five hits, three walks and five stolen bases in 12 at-bats. "The whole key to beating the Indians is keeping Lofton off base," Avery said. He found the key and then he turned it: Lofton had five at-bats, no hits, no stolen bases, no runs — and no help.

Lofton may have been the disappointment on the night, but there is no doubt who has been the disappointment of the Series. Albert Belle, the Indians' clean-up hitter, is baseball's answer to Eric Cantona: moody, difficult, but undoubtedly brilliant. In the American League this summer, he hit 50 home runs at a rate that might have challenged the record set by Roger Maris in 1961, had the season not been shortened by the players' strike. As one observer put it, he had more hits than the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame newly opened across town.

More surprisingly, he had managed to get through a season without being suspended for the kind of behaviour that would give Cantona a run for his money. Once, he started a fight with a pitcher. Once, he threw a ball at a supporter who had been taunting him. Then, last season, he was found to have been "corking" his bat — inserting a layer of cork to make the ball fly further — in a saga that briefly gripped the nation.

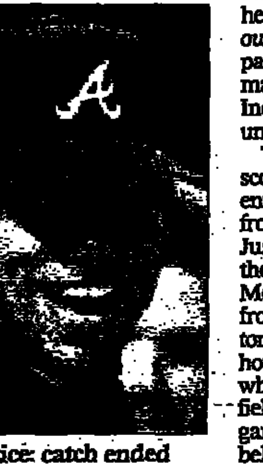
This season passed without incident until the play-offs against Boston, when, after one particularly mighty blow, the Red Sox manager demanded that the umpires inspect Belle's bat. It was sawn open. *Nothing incriminating* was found, but the bat, Belle's favourite, was ruined. Without it, his power has faded, and the roar and bell-ringing that greet his arrival at the plate in Cleveland has taken on an air of longing rather than expectancy. At last, in the sixth inning on Wednesday, Belle showed signs of life.

The Braves had taken the lead with a solo home run from Ryan Klesko. Up came Belle to whack Avery's worst pitch 325 feet into the right-field seats. Rockets exploded overhead and the crowd went barmy, thinking that their hero had returned. It turned out that he had just been passing through. He did not manage another hit, and the Indians did not score again until it was too late.

The *Braves, meanwhile,* scored three runs in the seventh, thanks to decisive hits from Luis Polonia and David Justice, and added another in the top of the ninth, when Fred McGriff scored on a double from Javy Lopez. In the bottom of the ninth, Martinez homered for the Indians, but when Lofton's rocket to right field was caught by Justice, the game was over. Belle and the bells of Cleveland had been silenced.

[illegible]

Team	Inning scores									Runs	Hits	Errors
Atlanta	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	5	11	1
Cleveland	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	6	0



Justice: catch ended Cleveland challenge

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

McLean helps Montgomerie chose the appropriate club in the Volvo Masters at Valderrama yesterday

Acting in support of Montgomerie

John Hopkins looks at a caddie who does more than carry the bag for the volatile Scot

If it were once almost unheard of for a university graduate to play golf for a living, then it is not so now when not one, but two, dominate the professional game in Europe. As Colin Montgomerie, who has a BA in business management and law from Baptist University in Houston, Texas, attempts to win the Volvo Order of Merit on the PGA European Tour for a third year in a row, his bag is carried for him by Alastair McLean, who has a *MA (Hons) in modern history* from the University of Dundee.

Player and caddie relationships can, on occasion, be as harmonious as those of newly-weds, on others as frosty as those suffering an interfering in-law. Montgomerie's four-year partnership with McLean, a fellow Scot, is based on respect and professionalism hidden beneath a layer of rude affection.

"That was good," Montgomerie said of a shot he had hit while warming up on the driving range before yesterday's first round in the Volvo Masters.

"Self-praise is no praise," McLean said, grinning.

"It's the only praise I get," Montgomerie retorted, his cheeks aglow with laughter. "He has praised only two shots of mine all year."

Beneath a mop of brown hair, McLean's face is honest, his voice quietly spoken, his manner undemonstrative. A *crescent of a moustache* spreads over his top lip and his sideburns struggle downwards toward his ear lobes. A good golfer who once played off one and now off three, he took to caddying soon after graduating from university because it was the only way he could find of making a living.

The job of McLean, who will be 40 next month, is one that some covet for the obvious fiscal dividends. His percentage of Montgomerie's winnings of nearly £1 million so far this year makes him almost certainly the highest earner in the small Fife town where he lives. Yet, there are those who would think twice about receiving even such riches for fear of being on the end of the outbursts for which Montgomerie is famous.

"It's his nature," McLean said. "His determination overtakes everything. It's an absolute desire to win. I could never fault that. Stupidity annoys Monty. He does not tolerate fools easily. But he's mellowed out a lot.

"I've said things to him on the course like 'OK we got a bad bounce here' or 'they got a lucky bounce there', but it's not up to me to tell him about his behaviour. He's got people around him, his psychologists, his management group. They can tell him that. Anyway, he doesn't need telling, really. When it's all over and he's sitting in his room or driving to the airport he realises that 'OK, I wasn't the most courteous golfer out there today — but I'll try harder the next time'.

"I know what upsets him and I try to stop it before it gets to him. I try and work it out with him and if I can't — I walk ten feet behind him and tell myself it's part of my job. He pays me a lot of money to take a bit of stick."

Almost as rewarding as the money for McLean is the satisfaction he gets from his partnership with Montgomerie. McLean is treated royally, receiving first-class travel and being invited to stay when appropriate.

McLean believes nobody hits a driver from the fairway as well as Montgomerie. "He's the best in the world," McLean said. "There is no part of his game that needs significant improvement. He is very, very solid."

That the admiration is mutual becomes clear when Montgomerie is asked why McLean is such a good caddie. "He is the most intelligent out here — not in the sense that he has a university degree but in his common sense. He is very good mentally at keeping me going. His yardage book is a sight. It's the best. Lastly, at this stage, he is also my best friend."

Norman thinks back to missed round

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

BY WINNING the US PGA Tour Championship at the *Southern Hills Country Club* in Tulsa, Oklahoma, this week, Greg Norman can also win his third Tour-money title. He will become first golfer to win $2 million in prize-money and make a strong case for being the player of the year.

Yet Norman seems to care little about the money title, or the $540,000 that is received by the winner of the tournament. When asked about his chances for becoming player of the year, he just shrugged. The accolade Norman craves *is the Vardon Trophy*, which goes to the player with the lowest scoring average, and, once again, he cannot have it.

Under a US PGA policy *adopted to prevent players* from withdrawing after a bad round to keep their scoring averages down, Norman has been disqualified from winning the Vardon Trophy because he withdrew from the MCI Classic in April with back pains. "The money title is not that important to me," Norman said. "I've always been a Vardon Trophy guy."

Lee Janzen is the only one who can catch Norman for the money title. He would have to finish no worse than third and Norman would have to finish last for that to happen.

Nick Price leads the Vardon Trophy standings with a scoring average of 69.66 shots per round. *Steve Elkington,* the US PGA champion, at 69.68, has the only realistic chance of catching him. Nick Faldo is not in contention for any award, but he drew as much attention as anyone, largely because of his recently announced split with his wife. "I'm not going to talk about that," Faldo said after trying out four putters and before hitting three drives into the woods on the 9th hole during a practice round.

Faldo has asked for a bodyguard and tournament officials made available to him a *plain-clothes police officer* because of "the extra attention that has followed Nick here". Wes Seeley, a tour spokesman, added: "He'll stick around for as long as Nick feels it's necessary."

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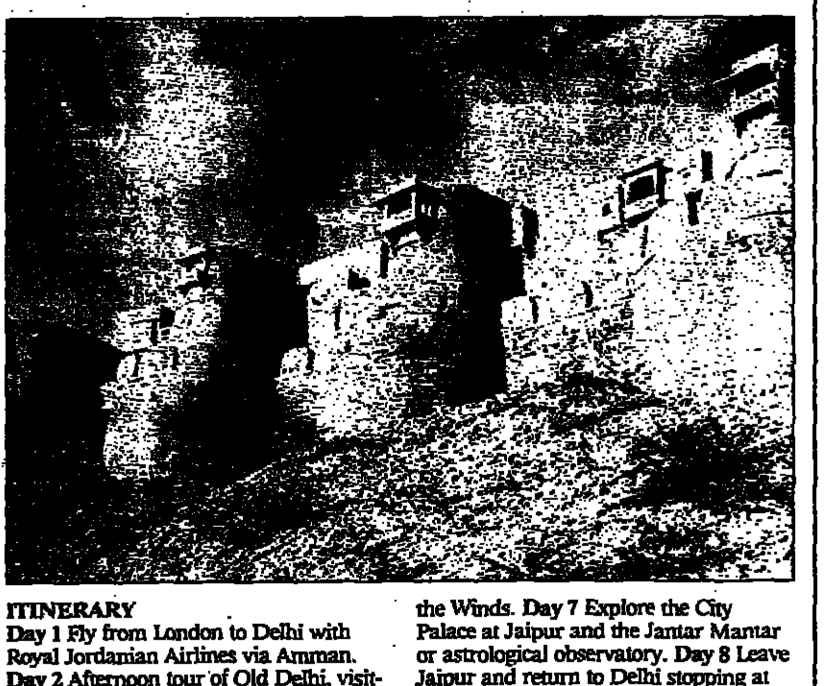

ITINERARY

Day 1 Fly from London to Delhi with Royal Jordanian Airlines via Amman. **Day 2** Afternoon tour of Old Delhi, visiting the Red Fort. In New Delhi, see many monuments and buildings designed by Lutyens, including India Gate and the President's Palace. **Day 3** Board the Shatabadi Express for Gwalior, home of the famous Scindia dynasty. Here you explore the spectacular fort, a riot of colourful tilework, then proceed to the tomb of Mohammed Ghaus. Optional lunch at the Usha Kiran Palace, formerly the guesthouse of the royal family. Arrive in Agra in time for dinner. **Day 4** Visit Agra Fort, a complex of marble palaces, testament to the power and artistic enlightenment of successive Mughal emperors and the tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah. You will then see the incomparable Taj Mahal. **Day 5** Travel to the romantic city of Jaipur, where almost all the buildings are painted pink and en route visit Fatehpur Sikri. **Day 6** Visit Amber where the ascent to the ancient capital of Jaipur is made by elephant and see the Palace of the Winds. **Day 7** Explore the City Palace at Jaipur and the Jantar Mantar or astrological observatory. **Day 8** Leave Jaipur and return to Delhi stopping at the Neemrana Fort. **Day 9** Early morning flight to London

DATES OF DEPARTURES

Jan 24, Feb 7 and 21, Mar 6 and 20, Apr 3 and 17, May 1, Aug 21, Sep 4 and 18, Oct 2, 16 and 30, Nov 13 and 20, Dec 4 and 20, 1996

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● *The winner of our holiday to Peru was Mr Patrick Grant of Edinburgh.*

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TOMORROW: WIN A HOLIDAY TO THE CARIBBEAN

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

CLEVELAND: World Series: Atlanta 5 Cleveland 2 (Atlanta lead best-of-seven series 3-1).

BASKETBALL

7-UP TROPHY: Birmingham 100 Leopards 93; Leicester 84 Doncaster 88.

North pool

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Derby	3	3	0	270	216	6
Chester	3	2	1	268	267	4
Doncaster	4	2	2	308	331	4
Leicester	3	1	2	262	257	2
Newcastle	3	0	3	234	269	0

South pool

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Worthing	2	2	0	221	193	4
Birmingham	2	2	0	186	156	4
Hemel	2	0	2	155	195	0
Leopards	2	0	2	194	212	0

BOXING

TELFORD: European middleweight championship: R Woodhall (Telford, holder) bt Z Kostic (Yugo) pts. Midlands area super-bantamweight championship: M Harris (Aldridge) bt P Buckley (Birmingham, holder) pts. Cruiserweight: Robert Norton (Stourbridge) bt Nigel Rafferty (Wolverhampton) rsc 6th. Super-feather: Brian Robb (Telford) bt Roger Grubb (Tipton) pts. Middle: Mark Dawson (Burton) bt Getty Williams (Wolverhampton) pts.

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Lilac Hill, Australia: Pakistanis 210 Chairman's XI 207

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Brisbane (second day of four). South Australia 276 (J Siddons 130, M Kasprowicz 6-48). Queensland 252-4 (J Maher 96 not out). Sydney (first day of four): New South Wales 383-5 (S Waugh 107, M Bevan 63 not out, M Taylor 53) v Tasmania.

MADRAS: Second Test match (second day of three): No play: India 54 for one v New Zealand.

CYCLING

HONG KONG: Tour Of China: Prologue (4.12km time-trial). 1, S Hegg (US) 5min 2.141sec; 2, D Nardello (It) at 3.683sec; 3, N Alvis (US) 7.170; 4, G Randolph (US) 7.398; 5, T Hamilton (US) 9.074; 6, A Mizurov (Kaz) 9.132.

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

EUROPEAN CUP: Champions' League: Group A: Aab Aalborg (Den) 2, Panathinaikos (Gr) 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
FC Porto	3	1	1	1	2	1	4
Nantes	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Aalborg	3	1	0	2	3	6	3

REMAINING MATCHES: Nov 1: Panathinaikos v FC Porto (Por). Aab Aalborg v Nantes (Fr). Nov 22: Panathinaikos v Aab Aalborg, FC Porto v Nantes. Dec 6: Nantes v Panathinaikos, Aab Aalborg v FC Porto

COCA-COLA CUP: Third round: Aston Villa 2 Stockport County 0, Coventry City 3 Tottenham Hotspur 2, Crystal Palace 2 Middlesbrough 2, Derby County 0 Leeds United 1, Liverpool 4 Manchester City 0; Millwall 0 Sheffield Wednesday 2, Norwich City 0 Bradford City 0, Queens Park Rangers 3 York City 1, Southampton 2 West Ham United 1, Stoke City 0 Newcastle United 4, Wolverhampton Wanderers 0 Charlton Athletic 0. Replay dates: November 7: Bradford City v Norwich City (7.45). November 8: Middlesbrough v Crystal Palace (7.45), Tranmere Rovers v Birmingham City (7.30), Leicester City v Bolton Wanderers (7.45). Rescheduled match: November 7: Reading v Bury (7.45).

SCOTTISH COCA-COLA CUP: Semi-final: Dundee 2 Airdrieonians 1

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Newport AFC 3 Dorchester 2, Salisbury 3 Gloucester 3. Midland division: Solihull 3 Evesham 0. Southern division: Poole 0 Fareham 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Worcester	13	8	3	2	24	12	27
Newport AFC	12	8	2	2	25	15	26
Rushden & D.	10	8	1	1	24	8	25
Gloucester	13	7	4	2	28	11	25
Cheltenham	12	8	1	3	23	15	25
Merthyr	12	6	1	5	26	23	19
Baldock Tn	12	5	3	4	24	13	18
Halesowen	11	4	5	2	18	14	17
Gravesend	11	5	2	4	21	18	17
Crawley Town	12	4	4	4	17	17	16
Hastings	12	4	4	4	17	19	16
Cambridge C	13	5	1	7	19	22	16
Chelmsford	12	4	3	5	13	18	15
Sudbury Tn	11	3	5	3	20	19	14
Dorchester	11	4	1	6	21	18	13
Atherstone	11	3	4	4	17	16	13
Burton	11	3	4	4	17	19	13
Gresley	12	3	4	5	11	17	13
Salisbury	10	3	2	5	13	18	11
Ilkeston Tn	11	3	2	6	15	31	11
VS Rugby	13	1	2	10	9	38	5
Stafford	13	0	2	11	13	39	2

LEAGUE OF WALES: League Cup: First round matches: Group one: Connahs Quay 1 Porthmadog 0, Conwy 1 Bangor City 1. Group three: Aberystwyth 3 Caersws 4. Group four: Llanelli 4 Briton Ferry 3

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton 2 Oxford United 1; Crystal Palace 1 Bristol Rovers 1, Ipswich Town 0 Luton Town 1; Watford 1 Chelsea 2. *League Cup:* Bath City 1 Bournemouth 2, Birmingham City 4 Cheltenham 0, Swansea City 1 Cardiff City 1.

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Deveronvale 2 Elgin 4; Keith 2 Cove 3, Lossiemouth 1 Buckie Thistle 0, Rothes 3 Fraserburgh 1

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridport 2 Crediton 1

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: League Cup: Second round, first leg: Tottenham Om 2 Woodford 0.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND COMBINATION: Industrial Rewinds League Cup: Second round: Stratford 1 *Pershore 0.*

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Stowmarket 2 Sudbury 0

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Nottingham Forest 1 Manchester United 1; West Bromwich Albion 1 Sheffield United 2. Second division: Barnsley 4 Grimsby Town 3; Burnley 2 Sunderland 1, Huddersfield Town 1 Leicester City 1, Port Vale 1 Blackpool 2. Third division: Bury 1 Rochdale 0; Chester City 1 Darlington 1; Shrewsbury Town 4 Scarborough 0, Walsall 0 Doncaster Rovers 0

NORTHWEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Nantwich 1 Skelmersdale 0

FA YOUTH CUP: Second qualifying round: *Wembley 1 Basildon 2, Kingstonian 0 Woking 5.*

DUTCH LEAGUE: Twente Enschede 2 NEC Nijmegen 0, RKC Waalwijk 1 Groningen 3; Sparta Rotterdam 3 Vitesse Arnhem 0, Heerenveen 2 Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 1, NAC Breda 2 Fortuna Sittard 0, Roda JC Kerkrade 1 Willem II Tilburg 1; Ajax 4 Volendam 0. Leading positions: 1, Ajax 33pts; 2, PSV Eindhoven 28; 3, Heerenveen 21; 4, Willem II Tilburg 20.

ITALIAN CUP: Third round: Atalanta 1 Juventus 0 (aet, 0-0 after 90min), Udinese 0 Lazio 1, Lecce 0 Fiorentina 5, Forli 0 AC Milan 2, Cagliari 2 Sampdoria 1, Palermo 1 Vicenza 0

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPER CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Nacional (Uru) 0 Flamengo (Br) 1; Atletico Nacional (Col) 1 Independiente (Arg) 0

SCHOOLS MATCHES: International match: Under-15: Luxembourg 4 Wales 6. Premier League under-19 Trophy: *Cleveland 5 West Yorkshire 1. Inter-county* under-16: Suffolk 3 Kent 1, under-15 Suffolk 2 Kent 5. Inter-Association: Wigan 4 Sunderland 3

ENGLAND WOMEN'S SQUAD (for European championship qualifying match v Italy, Roker Park, Sunderland, on November 1): P Cope (Millwall Lionesses), C Lacey (West Ham), D Bampton (Croydon), V Exley (Doncaster Belles), J Lorton (Wembley), T Proctor (Croydon), S Williams (Arsenal), K Pealling (Arsenal), K Burke (Everton), K Smith (Wembley), B Easton (Liverpool), C Wheatley (Arsenal), T Mapes (Croydon), K Davis (Croydon), G Coultard (Doncaster Belles), C Harwood (Wembley), K Walker (Doncaster Belles), M Spacey (Arsenal), H Powell (Croydon).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): St Louis 4 Hartford 2; Montreal 7 Florida 2; Vancouver 4 New Jersey 2; Philadelphia 3 NY Islanders 1, Colorado 3 Calgary 2; Winnipeg 6 San Jose 1

MILTON KEYNES: Olympic qualifying match: Group A: Great Britain 4 Holland 1.

REAL TENNIS

FONTAINEBLEAU: French Open doubles championship (British unless stated): Semi-finals: C Bray and M Gooding bt A Phillips and N Wood 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; P Tabley and F Filippelli (Australia) bt J Howell and N Pendrigh 3-6, 6-2, 6-2

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Italy A 21 New Zealand 51 *(at Catania, Sicily).*

SNOOKER

SUNDERLAND: Skoda Grand Prix: Quarter-finals: J Higgins (Scot) bt J White (Eng) 5-2; S Hendry (Scot) bt F O'Brien (Ire) 5-3

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Oxford 61 Exeter 35

TENNIS

ESSEN, Germany: Men's tournament: Second round: M Woodforde (Aus) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 6-3, 6-4. M Sinner (Ger) bt G Ivanisevic (Croatia) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4. R Krajicek (Holl) bt B Steven (US) 6-3, 6-4. A Medvedev (Ukraine) bt J Frana (Arg) 6-2, 6-4. J Courier (US) bt A Radulescu (Rom) 6-0, 7-6. Third round: S Bruguera (Sp) bt D Vacek (Cz) 7-5, 7-6. P Sampras (US) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-2, 6-4. M Washington (US) bt A Agassi (US) 4-6, 6-1, 6-1. A Boetsch (Fr) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 2-6, 6-3, 6-1. T Enqvist (Swe) bt M Sinner (Ger) 6-4, 6-3

SANTIAGO, Chile: Men's tournament: Second round: M Hadad (Col) bt F Santoro (Fr) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. S Dosedel (Cz) bt J Oncins (Br) 6-2, 7-5. S Schalken (Holl) bt N Pereira (Ven) 6-1, 6-4. A Costa (Sp) bt R Sabau (Rom) 6-2, 6-3

FIXTURES

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Championship
London Broncos v Oldham
(at Charlton Ath, 8.0)

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Radcliffe v Bradford Pk Ave

LEAGUE OF WALES: Ebbw Vale v Inter Cardiff

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Shelbourne v Sligo (7.45).

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Inter-county under-15: Middlesex v Inner London (at Greenford 2.0). Representative match: Essex Schools v Southend Youth (at MacMillan Stadium).

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: British heavyweight championship: James Oyebola (Paddington, holder) v Scott Welch (Brighton; at Metropole Hotel, Brighton).

SNOOKER: Skoda Grand Prix (Sunderland).

SPEEDWAY (7.30): Premier League: Arena Essex v Oxford (8.00), Belle Vue v Bradford; Peterborough v Ipswich.

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Call-to-arms by Williams bolsters Hill's role

Hill shows frustration of defeat

From Oliver Holt
in Suzuka

IT FELT a bit like the relief of a long and particularly intense siege. Frank Williams, standing in his frame in his garage, staged the decisive act of release and sent Michael Schumacher and the other critics — who have leapt on Damon Hill's back in the past weeks and questioned his long-term future with the Williams Formula One motor racing team — fleeing with a call-to-arms.

In the days before and after the drivers' championship finally slipped from Hill's grasp at Aida on Sunday, rumours abounded that his team had become disillusioned with his performances and were attempting to swap him with Gerhard Berger, the Ferrari driver, who is due to join Benetton next season. Hill's third place in the Pacific Grand Prix had been greeted with stony silence by his team and he spent a tense few days in Tokyo contemplating his failure to wrest the title from his German nemesis.

Hill looked subdued yesterday when he arrived at the circuit here and was mobbed by hordes of Japanese fans. He was courteous and polite as usual, but bristled at suggestions that he had something to prove in the final two grands prix of the season, here and in Adelaide, in a fortnight's time. "I have not got to prove anything," he said. "I am completely happy with myself."

But it took a vote of confidence from Williams to clear the air and instil a more positive attitude in the team and Hill as they fight to overcome the 21-point lead Schumacher's Benetton team holds in the race for the constructors' championship. The team owner was even moved to invoke a military comparison.

"Damon has been getting a pounding," Williams said, "but I read a book recently which quoted Wellington at Waterloo as saying 'by God we're getting a pounding, but now let's see who can pound the hardest'. Damon may have lost the drivers' championship but the real championship is still to be decided.

"I am sure Damon will give as good as he gets in the next race here. He could turn around and batter everybody. He is full of surprises and he is still improving. I have had doubts about him, of course I have. You cannot ignore your problems and he has obviously gone off the boil a couple of times.

"As far as next year is concerned, we have made our decision and we are very happy with it. I have heard these stories about swaps and I have no idea where they are coming from. Anyway, if he is getting a slagging, it must be because he is as good as Nigel Mansell used to be. He has achieved Nigel's eminence."

The race here on Sunday should see the return of Mika Hakkinen to McLaren after an appendix operation, while the Sauber team announced yesterday that Karl Wendlinger, who was seriously injured in a crash at Monaco last year, would replace Jean-Christophe Boullion for the final two races.

If Wendlinger compares well to Heinz-Harald Frentzen, his team-mate, it could mean the end of the hopes of a drive in the Swiss team for the talented English pair of Johnny Herbert and Mark Blundell.

Christopher Irvine meets Australia's try-scoring heavyweight

Menzies looking forward to final act of opportunism

It was the best try of the rugby league World Cup and Steve Menzies, inevitably, was the scorer. From 70 metres, the tryline is a distant horizon for a back, let alone a forward. In the semi-final against New Zealand, the Australian's powerful stride swallowed up the ground in nine lung-bursting seconds. Moreover, he took the scenic route.

New Zealand, fatally, were committed to the player in possession. The timing of Andrew Johns's short, inside pass was perfection. Menzies, a human helicopter of whirling arms and legs, met it at pace and was away. Such beef on the hoof — 15st packed into a rangy 6ft 3in — is an irresistible sight.

He veered left, straightened up and shifted left again as defenders narrowed his angle of approach. While gathering momentum, Menzies can somehow weigh options even quicker. Sean Hoppe, among the world's swiftest wings, was used as a springboard in being fended off in the last 20 metres. Matthew Ridge clutched at his legs, but the eagle had landed.

"It's about reactions and reflexes, but the main thing is just to keep the legs going," Menzies said — spoken like a back, too. At 21, he is the most dangerous of forwards, the natural consequence of the blurring of the edges in modern rugby league between backs and forwards. In Australia's armoury for the World Cup final at Wembley tomorrow, he is the lethal weapon.

Last season in Australia, for Manly-Warringah, he became the first forward in half a century to top the try-scoring list and the first since 1918 to plunder 20. He is the leading scorer in the tournament, with six tries: a forward, in other words, who thinks he is a back.

England know what to expect after his two touchdowns against them in the opening match. It is about closing him down — not easy in the roaming role he occupies. There is no shirking by him of the tackles and drives, but the insatiable appetite for hard yardage by his team-mate, Gary Larson, gives Menzies a freer hand in the second row to support the ball-players to whom he is so closely attached. Menzies is no hovering opportunist. The midfield players deliberately look to him, because he can hit the ten-metre gap to the opposition defensive line stronger, and often faster, than the threequarters.

"I had three games for Manly in the centre last season, but the ball might not be coming your way," he said. "It's far more positional, whereas in the forwards you're in the thick of it. Often it's where the best opportunities are."

He is of threequarter stock. His grandfather was a centre for the newly-formed Manly team in 1946. Menzies was born a short distance from the Brookvale ground. Apart from half a season in junior rugby at full back, forward has been his position since he was seven. The ubiquitous head-guard was a teenage fashion accessory that has stuck.

The first indication of his scoring prowess in Britain came on a wet, miserable day in Workington 12 months ago. The mud did not inhibit his destructive running in devastating Cumbria, in his first appearance for Australia, and from scoring the first of nine tries on their tour of Britain and France. Menzies only broke into the international side in the 3-0 series defeat of New Zealand in the summer — he is up to eight tries in six appearances — but the tour last year was a learning curve. He believes the side is no less strong now. Not that there is any argument about the place of Menzies, who is firmly in the Australian Rugby League camp, even in a Kangaroo side containing the absentee Super League players.

Tries, though, are a bonus to Menzies. "I live for winning," he said. "At Wembley, I'd rather score no tries and win than three tries and lose. As long as I can help out."

To a player who has experienced the disappointment in two weeks of losing a Sydney grand final and at Wembley, England will put their faith in Menzies not being third time lucky, and shadowing his every move.

'Such beef on the hoof — 15st packed into a rangy 6ft 3in — is irresistible'

New Zealand feel Menzies's force during their semi-final. Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

The verdicts of a guru

The Music Machine: The Technocrats. *Radio 3, 5.00pm.*

"Thank you for something that has been quite fantastic," says John Major, ending Dick Witts's five-part series about electro-acoustic music. The Prime Minister's comment has been plucked out of another context, but it sums up my reaction to Witts's programmes. Their inspiration has been Karlheinz Stockhausen and his pioneering works. It is clear his guru status has not been diminished by the activities of a new army of musical technocrats, a fact made clear by this programme in which the master passes judgment on the compositions of four of his disciples. Three call themselves Aphex Twin, Plastikman, and Scanner. The fourth is 17-year-old Daniel Pemberton on whom Stockhausen comes down rather heavily.

Kaleidoscope Longings: Mananan's Isle. *Radio 4, 9.30pm.*

Nostalgia for the long-ago, whether real or mythic, continues to fuel this appealing series. Even more than last week's launching feature about Tintagel, tonight's about the Isle of Man interleaves poetry and opinion. I was not sure sometimes to which I was listening. "Gold is the gorse, white the waterfall, and the wild cherry on the wind" (poetry) could have come out of the same stable as "White mist coming in like fingers and curling around the breakwater" (non-poetry). *Mananan's Isle* features Rose Flint's verse, Nick Sargent's music and — not often enough for me — the haunting singing voice of Emma Christian.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Dave Pearce **6.00** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45 Newsbeat and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Clive Warren, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat, and at **6.15** The Net **7.00** The Essential Selection **10.00** John Peel at Camden Live **1.00-4.00am** Radio 1 Rap Show with Tim Westwood

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Panel Beaters **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45** Raffles (4/6) **9.00** Listen to the Band **10.00** Jazz Uncorked! Music from the Guinness Jazz Festival in Cork **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Sue McGarry

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at 5.45 Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl Euronews and at 11.00 News; Chain Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at 1.15 Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at 3.45 *Entertainment News* **4.00** Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra; **7.20** sport **7.35** Parkinson on Sport, with Barry Hearn **9.05** American Graffiti **9.35** Stop Press **10.05** Entertainment Superhighway **11.00** Night Extra, incl at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Seán Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** Mike Allen **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **5.00** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** *News From Nowhere* **7.30** In the Lion's Den **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Music Review **9.00** News in German **9.15** Focus on Faith **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** *News From Nowhere* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30pm** Meridian **12.00** News **12.05** Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Science in Action **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack **3.00** News in German **3.15** Music Review **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business Report **5.45** Sport **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Britain **9.30** People and Politics **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Spotlight **11.15** In the Lion's Den **11.45** Farming **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30** From the Weeklies **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press **1.15** Seven Days **1.30** Jazz **1.45** Good Books **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Politics **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Vintage Chart **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** *Europe* **4.45** *Folk Routes*

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Early Breakfast **6.00** Richard Astbury **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Classic Verdict **8.00** Evening Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Robert Booth

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

5.55am Weather
6.00 On Air: Bach, orch Holst (Fugue in G, BWV 577); Shostakovich (Symphony No 15); Gesualdo (Tenebrae Responses for Good Friday, excerpts); **7.32** *Symphony Series*: Mozart (Symphony No 14 in A, K114); **8.05** Rachmaninov (Vocalise); Ravel (Boléro)
9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini: Holst (Ballet music, The Perfect Fool); **9.11** *Haydn Piano Sonatas*: Sonata in D, H XVI 37); **9.22** Elgar (Falstaff)
10.00 Musical Encounters: including Haydn (Overture to an English Opera); **10.05** *Artist of the Week*: Maurice Bourgue, oboe. Mozart, arr Heidenreich (Suite, *The Magic Flute*); **10.30** Cipriani Potter (Symphony in E flat); Barber (Piano Sonata); Bach (Concerto in C minor, BWV 1060)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Berio (Due Pezzi; Chemins IV; Epifanie; Sequenza X; Continuo)
1.00pm Bristol Lunchtime Concert. The first in a new season of concerts from St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Arthur *Pizarro, piano*, performs Bartók (Sonata); Kodály (Dances of the Marosszek); Liszt (Sonata in B minor)
2.00 Fairest Isle: Medieval Music Festival in Bristol. Joy d'Amor. Catherine Bott gives a solo recital devoted to love
3.00 Mining the Archive: **Alexander Gibson,** conductor. MacCunn (The Land of the Mountain and the Flood); Thea Musgrave (Concerto for Orchestra); Strauss (Der Rosenkavalier, excerpts)
4.20 Fairest Isle: Turns of the Century. Russell Davies celebrates Ted Ray
4.30 Fairest Isle: Lost Voices. Last of three programmes on English folk song
5.00 The Music Machine: See *Choice*
5.15 In Tune from New York: Sousa (Manhattan Beach); Barber (Dover Beach); Mozart (Sonata in E minor, K304); Tchaikovsky (The Queen of Spades)
7.30 BBC Symphony Orchestra in the USA under Andrew Davis, with Gianna Rolandi, soprano. Tippett (Symphony No 2); Verdi (Willow Song; Ave Maria, Otello); Puccini (Sola, perduta, abbandonata, Manon Lescaut, Un bel di vedremo, *Madame Butterfly*; Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E minor)
9.20 In Translation: *The Death of Napoleon* by Simon Leys. Read by Ian Masters
9.45 Hear and Now: Arditti Quartet, with Sarah Leonard, soprano, performs Alwynne *Pritchard (Nocturne)*; *Richard* Barrett (Open and Close); Brian Ferneyhough (Quartet No 4); Bent Sorenson (Quartet No 4)
12.00-1.00am The Land Where the Good Songs Go: Rodgers *after* Hammerstein. Mark Steyn recalls the forgotten works of Richard *Rodgers*, composed after Oscar Hammerstein died in 1960 (r)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News, incl weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** *Prayer for the Day*, with the Rev Roy Jenkins **6.30** Today, with Sue McGregor and John Humphrys, incl **7.25**, **8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day ***8.40*** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs: Don Black (r)
9.45 Feedback: Chris Dunkley airs listeners' letters and comments
10.00-10.30 News; Under the Indian Sun (FM only): Claire Jenkins visits Dharamsala (2/2)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 Children's BBC Radio 4: The Reluctant Vampire (LW only), by Eric Morecambe
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced from Wales by Gail Foley. Serial: *Ladder of Years*
11.30 The Natural History Programme, *presented by* Joanna Pinnock
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Liz Barclay
12.25pm The Food Programme: Derek Cooper investigates whether consumer boycotts work **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers *(r)* **1.55** *Shipping* Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Serial: Uncle Silas. Teresa Gallagher and George Cole star in Alan Drury's dramatisation of Sheridan Le Fanu's gothic novel (3/3) (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Tim *Marlow* reviews an exhibition of European art at the Hayward Gallery
4.45 Fairy Tales: Short Story — The Devil in the Cupboard *by Michelene Wandor*. Read by Lesley Joseph
5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Going Places, with David Stafford
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week, with Rosemary Harthill
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby's guests are Menzies Campbell, MP; *Christina Odone, Editor of the Catholic Herald*; Lord Parkinson; and Chris Smith, MP, Shadow National Heritage Secretary
8.50 Law in Action: Marcel Berlins presents a topical programme which examines the judgments and the issues in the law
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke
9.30 Kaleidoscope Longings (r). See Choice **9.59** Weather
10.00 The ***World Tonight***, *with* Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Letters and *Diaries* of C. Jeames de la Pluche, Esquire, by W.M. Thackeray. The final part
11.00 Week Ending: Sally Grace, Jeffrey Holland and Toby Longworth take a *sceptical* look at the week's events
11.45 Today in Parliament
12.00am News, incl **12.27** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The *Handmaid's Tale*, by *Margaret* Atwood (5/10) **12.48** Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE: MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

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Hendry stutters through to chalk up semi-final record

By Phil Yates

THREE Scottish players will appear in the semi-finals of a world ranking snooker tournament for the first time after a 5-3 victory by Stephen Hendry over Fergal O'Brien in the Skoda Grand Prix at Sunderland yesterday.

Alan McManus and John Higgins reached the last four on Wednesday and when Hendry impressively built a 3-1 lead, he seemed certain to join them. Oozing confidence, the world champion had compiled breaks of 129 — his ninth century of the season — 81 and 57.

Leading 48-26 in the fifth frame, Hendry was also closing in on a 4-1 advantage, but he surprisingly missed a simple black off its spot and O'Brien, renowned for his stubborn approach, cleared up with 35 to steal the frame on the pink.

Although Hendry duly regained a two-frame cushion at 4-2 with a run of 61, O'Brien typically refused to accept defeat. His 84 break made it 4-3 and a deciding ninth frame looked likely when the Irishman led 40-15 in the next.

However, O'Brien, who caused an upset by beating Hendry 5-2 at the corresponding stage of last year's Benson and Hedges Irish Masters, missed a red and, more expensively, the blue when only three pots away from drawing level at 4-4.

Hendry: recovered

Hendry, so reliable in such pressurised situations, potted the blue down the side cushion and the pink to a middle pocket to ensure a best-of-17-frame semi-final meeeting with Steve James or Steve Davis tomorrow.

"I was heading for a comfortable win until I missed that black in the fifth frame," Hendry said. "Sometimes when you make a terrible mistake like that, it unsettles you and, in the end, I stuttered over the line."

Hendry, the Grand Prix champion in 1987, 1990 and 1991, also admitted that a five-day break between matches had not been beneficial — although he was not looking for excuses.

"Being away from the event for so long definitely affects you, but I've been a professional long enough not to let it bother me," Hendry, who beat Darren Morgan 5-0 in 64 minutes in the previous round last Saturday, said.

□ Snooker could become an Olympic sport in the future after the decision yesterday by the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) to accept the World Confederation of Billiards Sports (WCBS) as a member.

The WCBS, which includes the World Snooker Federation, the World Pool-Billiard Association and the Union Mondiale de Billiard, was admitted to the GAISF at its General Assembly in Seoul, South Korea.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

BLOOEY
(c) US slang, awry, amiss, usually in the phrase *to go blooey*, etymology unknown. John Updike, *Rabbit, Run*, 1961: "A clear image suddenly in the water wavering like a blooey television set."

ETRENNE
(c) A New Year's gift, a Christmas box or gift, from the French *estreine*, Latin *strena*. "A hundred little whimsical bon bons. I have been given by Monsieur and Madame, as étrennes or New Year's gifts."

AMBARI
(b) The fibre of an Indian plant, *Hibiscus cannabinus*, used for making ropes and coarse cloth, brown Indian hemp, ambari hemp, the plant itself. From the Urdu *ambārā*. "Hibiscus cannabinus, Ambaree. The bark of this species is full of strong fibres which the inhabitants of the Malabar coast prepare and make into cordage."

ECORCHE
(a) *A subject so treated as to expose the muscular system, the past* participle of the French verb *écorcher* to flay, used in painting and sculpture. "It is not uncommon to represent the écorché in action, in the form of the Fighting Gladiator."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Qh5+ Kd8 2 Bf6+ Be7 3 Bxe7+ Kxe7 4 Qf7+ Kd8 5 Qf8 mate.

Oyebola needs to impress

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

JAMES OYEBOLA, of Paddington, the British heavyweight champion, gets his chance tonight to prove he is good enough to go on to bigger things. To convince the rankings committees of various international bodies that he can compete at the highest level, he will have to dispose of Scott Welch, of Shoreham, in an emphatic manner at Brighton. Oyebola's British and World Boxing Council (WBC) international titles and the vacant Commonwealth crown will be at stake.

Oyebola and Welch have met before, 17 months ago in Atlantic City. Oyebola knocked out Welch in the fifth round, but not before having to get off the floor himself in their vacant WBC international title bout on the undercard of Lennox Lewis's WBC championship defence against Phil Jackson.

Oyebola, 34, has won all but two of his 23 contests and, with a height of 6ft 9in, weight pushing 18st and a knockout punch, looks like a world contender — but his critics are not impressed. He has been on the floor too many times against some ordinary opposition.

However, he has been working with Evander Holyfield in his training camps at Atlanta and Houston for this bout and he may have picked up a few defensive skills. If he has, Welch, who has won 15 of his 17 bouts, will test them out. He stopped a good prospect, Julius Francis, in ten rounds in July. As Welch likes to have a fight, it should be one of those exciting "don't blink" nights.

مكتبة الاهرام

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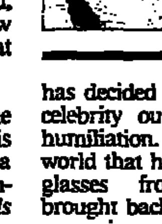
An unusual amount of Croydon in the air

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Croydon is not generally considered the home of entertainment. It is, in fact, the home of Ikea. But since Terry Major-Ball's memoirs were published — the *Diary of a Nobody* of our times — Croydon has stood proud as a beacon of banality. Major-Ball delighted a great many people with his book *Major Major*. Readers are apt to quote his deathless "Two hours, what a waste! I could have painted a door in that time" and "Perhaps one day someone will write an up-to-date history of Butlins". When he appeared on *Have I Got News for You*, his team-mate Paul Merton made every effort to make him look good — a kind deed in a cruel world, and quite uncharacteristic. Usually Merton leaves his team-mate to squirm unaided, his averted body language that of a wife with a headache, or a husband in a sulk.

Last night's **Picture This** (BBC2) was *Postcards to My Brother*, and it was as bold and pointless as may be imagined. Terry fills a suitcase for "Europe" ("Do the French have tea?" asks Shirley, as he packs some PG Tips), and then sits on a train. "I haven't been to Europe in more than 40 years," he cheerfully explains. He intends to see the Continent for himself, so that then he can "talk to John on a more even keel". On the train he misses Shirley. She has a talent for spotting rabbits, whereas Terry always misses them. Once in Paris, he is consoled to find a hole in the road. "Ah, a hole! One of my favourite occupations in strange countries, looking down a hole." Later, he expounds on this hobby: "You've got to have a man in a hole for it to be really interesting."

One is reminded of the wisdom of the trenches — if you know a better hole, go to it. For travel confirms for Terry that Croydon is everywhere; and everywhere is Croydon. At Strasbourg, he chats with MEPs about Euro legislation on crisps. In Hamburg, he finds his Philips factory counterpart, Jurgen, and together they compare "life in Hamburg with life in Croydon". In Bavaria, he meets a fellow gnome manufacturer, gets involved in an insultingly silly episode with a border guard and smuggled gnomes, and then he comes home. "Good old England, I'm glad to be home. I don't know how John puts up with all that travelling."

The joke, of course, is that he doesn't see the joke. But is this enough to sustain a half-hour documentary? The answer turns out to be no. *Postcards to My Brother* was actually very boring. Imagine a man showing you photos of a house and saying, "This is what we laughingly call the Brixton period". It was all like that. Major-Ball is a dull man who has decided that the pleasures of celebrity outweigh the risks of humiliation. He is glad to tell the world that he has a decanter and glasses from Camp David, brought back by his brother as a souvenir.

Back in Croydon, on ITV, Michael Barrymore had turned up at a shopping centre atrium, to present **My Kind of People**. "Hello Croydon!" he shouted to the crowd, and then launched into a rendition of *Smile*. It all happened rather quickly and without explanation, but for this series Barrymore appears to be travelling the country in a little green sports car, and each week hosting a talent show in a precinct. Fair enough. A milkman sang *The Wonder of You* in Elvis get-up, while Barrymore stooged and loomed to comic effect. It went down a storm.

Fast editing was the key here: Croydon was made to look exciting by *Clothes Show*-type energy in the post-production. And the talent was remarkable. I kept thinking, "These people ought to be on the television" (and then realising that, somehow, they were). Tiny tots break-danced; teenagers with true, shrill tonsils gave full belt to Whitney Houston and Madonna. Only the horror that Terry Major-Ball might turn up with an entertaining ventriloquist's gnome detracted from the buzz. A modest girl called Sophie Morish took her merited applause with a blush. She had yodelled through the closing bars of *I Will Always Love You* in a manner that suggested she had a Broadway contract in her back pocket. "How long have you been singing?" asked Barrymore. "Since I was eight." "How old are you now?" "I'm 12."

Molly Dineen's excellent Welsh Guards documentary series **In the Company of Men** (BBC2) was last night ostensibly concerned with the progress of a keen young officer (or "offsa") called Bruce. At the same time, however, Bruce's stint in command gave her an excuse to explore the mentality of his squaddies, known by such colourful names as "90" and "72" because in real life everyone is called Evans or Williams. "Officers get bills, and the men get love letters," she observed; "why is that?" Luckily, Bruce was in love with his job, because his isolation was dreadful. He had ambition, but no friends. The men, on the other hand, had plenty of the latter but none of the first.

Fans of Susan Tully and **EastEnders** (BBC1) will guess where this line of thought is leading. In the choice between friends and ambition, last night Michelle finally chose the officer course, and it cheered her up considerably. "This baby's mine," she told Mark. "I want this baby! I want it for me, and I want it for Vicki!" Mark stared at her with big, cow eyes of admiration.

And so the packing was done with incredible speed, and off she went, pregnant to Alabama, with her arm around The Child Who Refused to Act. And if I sound chirpy about this departure, I am in denial, that's all. Susan Tully was terrific in *EastEnders*. She was the star.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (53263)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (86508843)

9.05 Kilroy (s) (2921832)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5703060) **10.05 Housemates** (s) (1560466)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (1601089)

12.00 News (Ceefax) (4009263) **12.05pm Pebble Mill.** With Artie Shaw and the BBC Big Band (s) (7311195) **12.50 Regional News** (41168927)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (30027)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (91523621)

1.50 Columbo: Lovely But Lethal. With Peter Falk, Martin Sheen, Vera Miles, Vincent Price (r) (Ceefax) (5651008)

3.05 Incognito with Peter Smith (s) (8124466)

3.30 Orville and Cuddles (r) (1444640) **3.35 Robinson Sucroe** (6212114) **4.00 The Itsy Bitsy Spider** (s) (1421602) **4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde** (s) (6737089) **4.35 Record Breakers** (s) (2193398)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (9352718)

5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (2637973)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (794517)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (824)

6.30 Regional news magazines (176)

7.00 Wipeout. Game show. (Ceefax) (s) (2195)

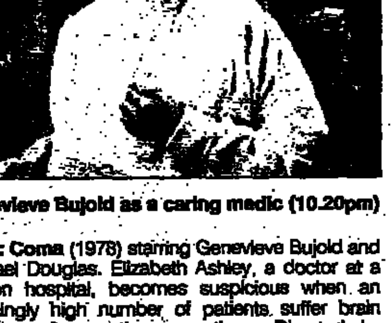
7.30 Tomorrow's World. Includes features on a bra that has been developed to pinpoint young women at risk of breast cancer. (Ceefax) (s) (260)

8.00 999 Lifesavers. Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris present more dramatic tales of real-life rescues (Ceefax) (s) (1843)

8.30 NEW **A Question of Sport** with David Coleman, Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham (s) (6850)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1060)

9.30 Dangerfield. GP and police surgeon Paul is concerned when Ken becomes obsessed with a beautiful escort girl, and begins to wonder if she is part of his murky past in the vice squad. (Ceefax) (s) (547331)



Genevieve Bujold as a caring medic (10.20pm)

10.20 FILM: Coma (1978) starring Genevieve Bujold and Michael Douglas. Elizabeth Ashley, a doctor at a Boston hospital, becomes suspicious when an alarmingly high number of patients suffer brain damage after routine operations. Directed by Michael Crichton. (Ceefax) (528737) **Wales:** The Way It Is (937027) 10.50 Auntie's New Bloomers (678244) 11.20 Film: Coma (231824) 1.10am Snooker — Grand Prix (1331157) 2.10 News headlines (5430138) and weather

12.10am Snooker. Highlights of the Skoda Grand Prix from Sunderland (s) (9054577)

1.10 FILM: Tokyo Pop (1988) starring Carrie Hamilton, Yutaka Tadokoro and Taiji Tonoyama. A New York singer in Tokyo meets a struggling musician who asks her to join his band. Directed by Fran Rubel Kazui (492683)

2.45 Weather (4090886)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season: Wall To Wall (87718) **6.30** Heavenly Bodies (57918)

7.00 Breakfast News (2019517) **7.15 Lassie** (9776553) **7.40 Pirates Of Dark Water** (r) (9886244) **8.05 Smart** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2063391)

8.35 The Record (s) (6532350)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (1548244)

2.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird (r) (s) (12184244)

2.10 Sport On Friday. Snooker: action from the Skoda Grand Prix in Sunderland; **Rugby League:** a preview of tomorrow's World Cup final from Wembley (s). Includes at **3.00 News** (Ceefax) and weather (379242) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) and weather (8066008)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (319)

4.30 Snooker from Sunderland (72398)

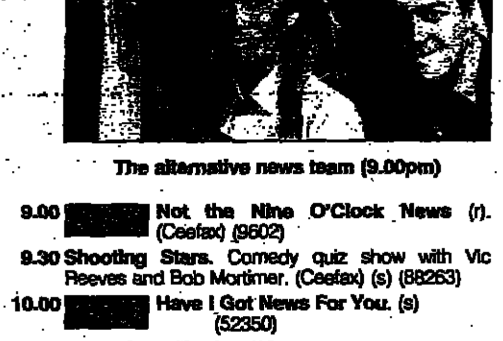
6.00 The Munsters (b/w). (Ceefax) (598911)

6.25 The New Avengers. Special agent spoof starring Patrick Macnee, Joanna Lumley and Gareth Hunt (r). (Ceefax) (962398)

7.15 Football, Fussball, Voetbal. The second of the series looking at four decades of European football traces the history of Italian soccer (252843)

8.00 NEW **Top Gear Motorsport.** Includes the touring car champion John Cleland reviewing his season. (Ceefax) (s) (9485)

8.30 Jancis Robinson's Wine Course. Merlot. (Ceefax) (s) (8992)



The alternative news team (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Not the Nine O'Clock News** (r). (Ceefax) (9602)

9.30 Shooting Stars. Comedy quiz show with Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer. (Ceefax) (s) (88263)

10.00 CHOICE **Have I Got News For You.** (s) (52350)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (127911)

11.15 Mondo Rosso. Jonathan Ross, Stewart Lee and Alex Winter look at the worst of old freaky B-movies (s) (735263). **Wales:** Welsh Lobby (735263) 11.45 Grace Under Fire (902992) 12.10am Mondo Rosso (8639480) 12.45 Close Up (6042596) 12.55-1.55 Film: The Hounds of Zaroff

11.45 Weather (601911)

11.50 Close Up. Jane Birkin selects a scene from Ingmar Bergman's *The Silence* (447640)

12.00 FILM: The Hounds Of Zaroff (1932, b/w) starring Joel McCrea, Fay Wray and Leslie Banks. Classic horror film about an island ruled by the brutal Count Zaroff, who likes to hunt human prey. Directed by Ernest B. Shoedsack and Irving Pichel. (8371041). Ends at **1.05am**

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CHOICE

Characters from *Crapston Villas* (Ch4, 11.15pm)

Crapston Villas
Channel 4, 11.15pm

An animated soap opera from the *Spitting Image* team seems to have derived much of its inspiration from *EastEnders*. Admittedly the focus of the show is not a pub but the occupants of an old Victorian house and the project is located less obviously in the working class. But if *EastEnders* can be described as half an hour of awful people shouting at each other, *Crapston Villas* is quarter of an hour of awful people shouting at each other, with the saving grace that it is mostly tongue in cheek. The humour is on the rude side, the puppets are appropriately gruesome, the characters include a black and two gays and among the voices are those of Jane Horrocks and Alison Steadman. It could become addictive.

Heroes of Comedy: Max Miller
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Nowadays comedians who want to shock go the whole way and get away with it. Max Miller lived in a more prudish age and his art, as several of the contributors to this profile point out, was going as far as he dared and drawing back at the last possible second. He left his audience to supply their own punchlines and if they choose the ruder version that was up to them and not to him. The Cheeky Chappie is remembered by Charlie Chester, who was once mistaken for his son, Bob Monkhouse and Roy Hudd, and we are assured that the highest-paid entertainer of his era was not the skinflint of popular legend. Where Miller's performances have survived in sound only, they are transmitted through a lifelike puppet.

Not the Nine O'Clock News
BBC2, 9.00pm

For those of us who remember the first transmission it is a shock to realise that this mould-breaking comedy belongs almost to prehistory. In other words, it was broadcast as long ago as 1979 to 1982. John Lloyd and Sean Hardie, the original producers, have assembled the best bits into eight tightly-edited programmes. It was the show that effectively launched Mel Smith, Griff Rhys Jones, Pamela Stephenson and Rowan Atkinson, not to mention writers such as Richard Curtis, Andy Hamilton and David Renwick. Perhaps the material does not seem so subversive now but the quality, whether in one-liners or full sketches, remains impressively high. Nor has it dated, witness Atkinson's hard-right speech to a Tory conference.

Have I Got News For You
BBC2, 10.00pm

As usual two cheers only are offered for the return of the irreverent news quiz, on account of the show's inability to distinguish between wit and smut. Wit, of course, is the more difficult to achieve but if the Radio 4 parent programme can manage it week after week, there is no excuse. Having said that, Angus Deayton, Paul Merton, Ian Hislop and friends can usually be relied on to provide a gloriously funny antidote to the pompous commentaries on the week's happenings. And if the guest panellists often do little more than make up the numbers, they usually include intriguing names. The tub of lard has not yet been booked for this tenth series, but Melvyn Bragg, Sir Bernard Ingham and Paula Yates have.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON/LWT

6.00am GMTV (7749911)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (5020737) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1558621)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (9481602)

10.35 This Morning (39807379) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4005447)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9459602)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (9467621) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (22264973)

1.55 Shortland Street (91528176) **2.20 The Chrystal Rose Show.** A discussion on domestic violence (s) (44522263) **2.50 High Road** (Teletext) (8496805)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (4957945) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (5307486)

3.30 Jays World (s) (4635911) **3.40 The Spooks of Bottle Bay** (s) (8918973) **4.00 St Tiggywinkles** (6735621) **4.15 Steven Spielberg Presents Freakazoid!** New series (1485805) **4.40 Fun House** (Teletext) (6362398)

5.10 After 5. (Teletext) (1591669)

5.40 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (390440)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (133)

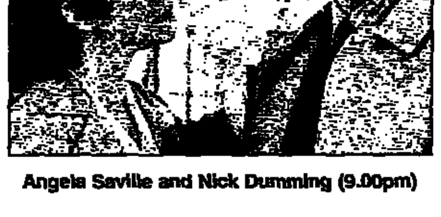
6.25 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather; followed by **Crime Monthly Preview** (217485)

7.00 Family Fortunes. Les Dennis hosts the quiz. (Teletext) (s) (7263)

7.30 Coronation Street. Curly puts his job on the line. (Teletext) (756)

8.00 The Bill: Allegations and Allegiances. Quinnan is facing a complaint of sexual harassment by a burglary victim. (Teletext) (6911)

8.30 Strange But True? Michael Aspel looks at the telepathic link between twins. (Teletext) (s) (2718)



Angela Saville and Nick Dumming (9.00pm)

9.00 Medics: Breaking Point. Hospital drama series. Foster (Nick Dumming) is alarmed by journalist Carol Lester's (Angela Saville) comprehensive knowledge of the report into Rachel's death. With Sue Johnston, Emma Cunningham, Jimmi Harkishin and Clarence Smith (Teletext) (s) (2282)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (56176)

10.30 Crime Monthly. Penny Smith appeals for viewers' help in solving crimes in London and the South East. Includes a feature on the apparently random killing in a quiet suburban street (25640)

11.30 Doctor Fox's Video Jukebox. Neil Fox plays viewers' requests (15114)

12.30am London Tonight (Teletext) (6056799)

12.40 Sledge Hammer. Spoof detective series. With David Rasche (9009886)

1.05 The James Whale Show (s) (1327954)

2.05 The Chart Show (s) (9618515)

3.00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (s) (86256732)

3.25 Noisy Mothers. Rock and heavy metal music magazine (s) (1444041)

4.30 The New Music. Includes features on the bands Drugstore and Massive Attack (37312)

5.30 ITN Morning News (90664). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Heathcliff (r) (6308398)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (13350)

9.00 Biker Mice from Mars (5018992)

9.25 Mork and Mindy (r) (5028379) **9.55 Saved by the Bell: The New Class** (r) (9543805)

10.20 The Legend of White Fang (r) (1577756) **10.50 The Pink Panther Show** (s) (3000350) **11.15 Little Shop of Horrors** (r) (5065027)

11.35 Dennis Cartoon series (r) (3150447)

12.00 Garden Doctors (r). (Teletext) (s) (53089)

12.30pm Sesame Street (22350)

1.30 Katie and Orbie (r) (92466)

2.00 The Grampian Sheepdog Trials (1089)

2.30 FILM: The Yellow Balloon (1943, b/w). Thriller, directed by J. Lee Thompson. Andrew Ray plays a boy who thinks he has killed his friend, and is terrorised by the real murderer, William Sylvester. With Kenneth More (56350)

4.00 Think Tank (Teletext) (s) (485)

4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (669)

5.00 Cutting Edge (r) (Teletext) (s) (4176)

6.00 Blossom. Teen drama series (534)

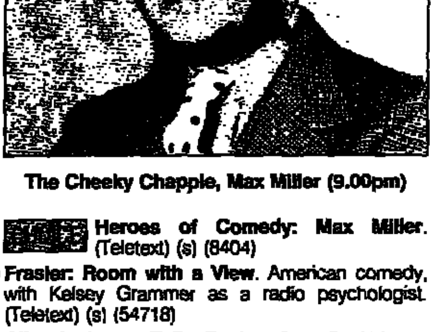
6.30 Hollyoaks. Phil Redmond's irreverent, fast-paced soap about the lives of a group of teenagers. (Teletext) (s). Followed by **Murun Buchstansangur** (114)

7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (873350)

7.55 Book Choice. Gore Vidal's memoirs, *Palimpsest*, reviewed by Christopher Hitchens. (Teletext) (s) (102718)

8.00 Garden Doctors. Last in the series. Dan Pearson and Steve Bradley visit Wendy's and Leslie's garden in Winchelsea. The effects of salt, poor soil, wind and rain combine to limit the range of plants they can grow. (Teletext) (s) (4553)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (3060)



The Cheeky Chappie, Max Miller (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Heroes of Comedy: Max Miller.** (Teletext) (s) (8404)

10.00 Frasier: Room with a View. American comedy, with Kelsey Grammer as a radio psychologist. (Teletext) (s) (54718)

10.30 Clive Anderson Talks Back to Cher, Paul Merton and Janet Street-Porter (s) (117534)

11.15 CHOICE **Crapston Villas.** (s) (119195)

11.30 Passengers. Youth magazine (s). Followed by **Beastly Behaviour.** Scorpion (469669)

12.20am FILM: The Postman Always Rings Twice (1946, b/w). Classic film noir starring Lana Turner as a frustrated young wife who lures drifter, John Garfield, into a plot to murder her husband, Cecil Kellaway. Directed by Tay Garnett (46341157)

2.25 FILM: Sherlock Holmes and the Woman in Green (1945, b/w). Basil Rathbone, as Conan Doyle's Baker Street sleuth, investigating the grisly "Finger Murders" in London, finds himself up against his arch-enemy, Professor Moriarty. With Nigel Bruce and Henry Daniell. Directed by Roy William Neill (43345461). Ends at **3.40am**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9467621) 1.25 Home and Away (22264973) 1.55 A Country Practice (91528176) 2.20-3.15 Murder, She Wrote (2775621) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1591669) 6.25 Anglia Weather (295447) 6.30-7.00 Anglia News (244) 11.00 Six Pairs of Pants (8973) 11.30 Rocktober (439176) 12.35am The James Whale Show (2271022) 1.30 The Loop (3059374) 2.05 Blood Ties (2942770) 3.10 Noisy Mothers (2694461) 4.05 The Album Show (5255225) 5.00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (33916)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (91528176) 2.20-3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3587602) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1591669) 6.25-7.00 Central News (217485) 10.40 Central Weekend (3446447) 12.10am Who Do You Do? (8633208) 12.40 Beyond Reality (9009886) 4.25 Jobfinder (8126732) 5.20 Asian Eye (4835789)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (9467621) 1.25 Home and Away (81576737) 1.50 Blue Heelers (6133621) 2.50-3.20 Surprise Gardeners (8496805) 5.10-5.40 High Road (1591669) 6.25 Granada Tonight (217485) 10.40 Passion (606027) 11.10 Festival: Tales from the City (723379) 11.55 You're Bard! (440737) 12.05am Hunter (9040374)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (5624553) 1.20 High Road (22265602) 2.20-3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3587602) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (1591669) 6.30-7.00 HTV News (244) 10.45 Film: Big Trouble in Little China (86234244) 12.35am The Good Sex Guide Abroad (4329747)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 2.20 Designed by Emanuel (44522263) 2.50-3.20 The New Mr & Mrs Show (8496805) 6.30-7.00 Wales Tonight (244)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.55 Coronation Street (9467621) 1.25 Home and Away (22264973) 1.55 A Country Practice (91528176) 2.20-2.50 Houseparty (44522263) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1591669) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (70244) 11.00 Six Pairs of Pants (8973) 11.30 Rocktober (439176) 12.35am The James Whale Show (2271022) 1.30 The Loop (3059374) 2.05 Blood Ties (2942770) 3.10 Noisy Mothers (2694461) 4.05-5.00 The Album Show (5255225)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (1558621) 12.20pm Westcountry News (4014195) 12.25-12.30 My Story (4013466) 12.55 Coronation Street (9467621) 1.25 Home and Away (22264973) 1.55 Frances Bissell's Westcountry Kitchen (47439621) 2.25-3.20 Murder, She Wrote (2774992) 3.25-3.30 Westcountry News; Weather (5307486) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1591669) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (70244) 10.30 Westcountry News; Weather (204602) 10.40 Top Guns (606027) 11.10 Good Advice (690485) 11.40 Tales from the Crypt (907447) 12.05am Gary Numan Live from London (9040374)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (1558621) 12.55 Coronation Street (9467621) 1.25 Home and Away (22264973) 1.55 A Country Practice (91528176) 2.20 Murder, She Wrote (2791669) 3.10 Help Yourself (9033851) 3.15-3.20 Five Minutes (1707422) 3.25-3.30 Calendar News (5307486) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1591669) 5.55 Calendar (504398) 6.30-7.00 It's a Vet's Life (244) 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (204602) 10.40 Tales from the Crypt (606027) 11.10 War and Remembrance (974027) 2.05am The Big E (9618515) 3.00 The Beat (2605577) 3.55 Shift (8664138) 4.45 Profile (64235664) 5.00 ITV Sport Classics (33916)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (13350) 9.00 Biker Mice from Mars (5018992) 9.25 Mork and Mindy: A Mommy for Mindy (5028379) 9.55 Saved by the Bell: The New Class (9543805) 10.20 The Legend of White Fang (1577756) 10.50 The Pink Panther Show (3000350) 11.15 Little Shop of Horrors (5065027) 11.35 Dennis (3150447) 12.00pm Sesame Street (72602) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (23737) 1.30 Film: The Mortal Storm (20515398) 3.20 Terrytoons (2052319) 3.30 Desperately Seeking Something (350) 4.00 Think Tank (485) 4.30 Grampian Sheepdog Trials (666) 5.00 5 Pump Tentalent (2300295) 5.15 5 Pump: Syth 95 (8357263) 5.30 Fifteen to One (821) 6.00 Newyddion (356911) 6.15 Heno (947114) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (884840) 7.25 Y Tri Dimensiwn (576080) 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (4553) 8.30 Newyddion (3060) 9.00 Watcyn Lloyd (4398) 9.30 Ellen: The Class Reunion (73331) 10.00 Brookside (8072553) 11.10 Crapston Villas (644485) 11.15 Clive Anderson Talks Back (114640) 11.30 Passengers (464114) 12.15am Beastly Behaviour (1979028) 12.20 Film: The Postman Always Rings Twice (46341157) 2.25 Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Woman in Green (2053138)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

7.00am DJ Kat (74805) 8.00 Power Rangers (94350) 8.30 Jeopardy (93621) 9.00 Court TV (84973) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (86621) 10.30 Blockbusters (13485) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (69553) 12.00 Spellbound (65827) 12.30pm Designing Women (13973) 1.00 The Waltons (41756) 2.00 Geraldo (43027) 3.00 Court TV (3602) 3.00 Oprah Winfrey (7326244) 4.20 Kids TV (1550756) 4.30 Double Dragon (4669) 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (7282) 6.00 Power Rangers (5834) 6.30 Spellbound (9114) 7.00 LAPD (8911) 7.30 M*A*S*H (5398) 8.00 Who Do You Do? (4331) 8.30 Coppers (3466) 9.00 Walker, Texas Ranger (68447) 10.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (61534) 11.00 Law and Order (57718) 12.00 Late Show (8223022) 12.45am The Extraordinary (7696409) 1.30 Anything But Love (22461) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix (3841515)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

6.00am Sunrise (3898485) 10.30 ABC Nightline (11027) 11.00 News and Business (404669) 1.30pm CBS News (56992) 2.30 Parliament (27669) 3.30 The Lords (7992) 5.00 Live at Five (5824) 6.30 Tonight (7756) 8.00 News and Business (2873) 8.30 The Entertainment Show (1008) 11.30 CBS News (22089) 12.30am ABC News (87886) 1.30 Tonight (44138) 2.30 Target (88461) 3.30 The Lords (90206) 4.30 CBS News (51916) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (25374)

SKY MOVIES

6.05am Showcase (70604447) 10.00 Prelude to a Kiss (1992) (24089) 12.00 Two of a Kind (1983) (17802) 2.00pm The Aviator (1985) (85114) 4.00 The Lemon Sisters (1990) (2114) 6.00 Prelude to a Kiss (1992): As 10am (65350) 8.00 The Pelican Brief (1993) (58453621) 10.20 Bram Stoker's Dracula (1992) (62321517) 12.30am Death Match (1994) (475935) 2.05 Braindead (1992) (961789) 3.45-5.45 The Man from Left Field (1993) (45063515)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 Portrait of a Mobster (1961) (35843) 2.00pm The War Wagon (1967) (411175) 3.50 The Sea Hawk (1940) (71063602) 6.00 Road to Bali (1952) (38244) 8.00 The Big Easy (1987) (40089) 10.00 Rain Man (1988) (19737992) 12.20am The Exorcist III (1990) (604225) 2.10-4.40 Cimarron (1960) (11171409)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Tarzan and His Mate (1934) (55076) 8.00 The New Adventures of Oliver Twist (25621) 10.00 Race to Freedom: The Underground Railroad (1993) (15331) 12.00 You Can't Cheat an Honest Man (1939) (15244) 2.00pm Lost in Alaska (1952) (837560) 4.00 The New Adventures of Oliver Twist: As 8am (8076) 6.00 No Dessert Dad, 'til You Mow the Lawn (1993) (35379) 7.30 UK Top Ten (8008) 8.00 My Breast (1994) (75737) 10.00 Blindfold: Acts of Obsession (1993) (158027) 11.40 The Night We Never Met (1993) (724379) 1.20am State of Emergency (1994) (8013225) 2.50 Harmful Intent (1993) (932312) 4.25-6.00 Cinderfella (1960) (746003)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Umbrella Tree (91614621) 6.30 Muppet Babies (13298114) 7.00 Winnie the Pooh (59108973) 7.30 Ducktales (59127008) 8.00 Chip 'n' Dale (24482534) 8.30 Adventures in Wonderland (24481805) 9.00 Fraggle Rock (24405485) 9.30 Pooh Corner (91389089) 10.00 Dumbo (13289466) 10.30 Donald's Quack Attack (24401669) 11.00 Walt Disney Presents (59136756) 12.00 FILM: Cowboy's Don't Cry (13269602) 2.00am Adventures in Wonderland (65150621) 2.30 Umbrella Tree (23390553) 3.00 Fraggle Rock (65179756) 3.30 Winnie the Pooh (23302398) 4.00 Donald's Quack Attack (23381805) 4.30 Ducktales (23387089) 5.00 Chip 'n' Dale (65141973) 5.30 Danger Bay (23301669) 6.00 Tarzan (23391282) 6.30 Faerie Tale Theatre (90680027) 7.30 Eyewitness (23388718) 8.00-10.00 FILM: Fifth Avenue Girl (21326992)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centre (95992) 7.30 Wrestling Zone (96485) 8.30 Aerobics (99244) 9.00 Tight Lines (89114) 10.00 Ford Scorpio Golf USA (22060) 12.00 ATP Tennis (9016195) 5.00pm Wrestling Raw (3008) 6.00 Sports Centre (21331) 7.00 Basketball (36181398) 8.55 Sports Centre (535398) 9.00 Boxing (33814) 11.00 Sports Centre (28440) 12.00 Tennis (31696) 2.00-4.00 Boxing (89399)

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am The Rugby Club (5283911) 7.00 Ford Scorpio Golf USA, Live (7511973) 10.30-12.00 Pool (3171282)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Formula 1 (81553) 8.30 Olympic (17640) 9.00 Tennis (48832) 9.30 Eurofun (37992) 10.00 Triathlon (78909) 11.00 Superbike (18843) 12.00 Formula 1 (50843) 1.00pm Motorsports (36263) 2.00 Live Golf (33850) 4.00 Truck Racing (9373) 4.30 Boxing (76973) 5.30 Formula 1 (65331) 6.30 News (1992) 7.00 Tractor Pulling (19195) 8.00 Karting (28843) 9.00 Formula 1 (15379) 10.00 Pro Wrestling (18466) 11.00 Formula 1 (28466) 12.00-12.30am News (80225)

Bing and Bob on the Road to Bali (Sky Movies Gold, 6.00pm)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (41113621) 8.30 Peyton Place (4111992) 9.00 As the World Turns (6091398) 10.00 Guiding Light (2577718) 11.00-12.00 Another World (2580382)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (4122009) 12.30pm Boomerang (5275892) 1.00 Sports Vacations (2591398) 1.30 Dive the World (5274263) 2.00 Paradise (1043008) 2.30 On Top of the World (9271737) 3.00 Independent Travellers (45336621) 4.00 Videos (9262089) 4.30 Colorado River (9251973) 5.00 Paradise (1027060) 5.30-6.00 Around the World (9275553)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7766485) 9.30 Cooking with Kurma (7332350) 10.00 Scotland's Larder (1403089) 10.30 Soul Mates (7762869) 11.00 Only Human (9241027) 12.00 A Stranger in the Family (7748621) 12.30pm Jimmy's (7343466) 1.00 Cooking With Kurma (9245843) 1.30 The Joy of Painting (7342737) 2.00 The Right Thing? (9253992) 2.30 Get Well Soon (7457911) 3.00 Scotland's Larder (9272027) 3.30-4.00 Two's Country (7469756)

UK GOLD

7.00am The Chronicles of Narnia (8215602) 7.30 Neighbours (9234737) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (7745892) 8.30 EastEnders (7744263) 9.00 The Bill (7769843) 9.30 The Sullivans (7341008) 10.00 Bergerac (9223621) 11.00 Dallas (8243485) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (7755379) 12.30pm Neighbours (7345824) 1.00 EastEnders (9214973) 1.30 The Bill (7344195) 2.00 The Sullivans (51210195) 2.25 Are You Being Served? (8582466) 3.00 Everybody's Equal (9274485) 3.30 Eldorado (7481114) 4.00 Casualty (44593535) 5.05 Every Second Counts (4435718) 5.45 Are You Being Served? (4751756) 6.25 EastEnders (9592843) 7.00 Eldorado (9266466) 7.30 The Upchat Line (7447534) 8.00 Morecambe and Wise (1862534) 9.00 Miami Vice (1882398) 10.00 The Bill (2455379) 10.35 Classic Cup Final (5335466) 11.35 The Young Ones (2177244) 12.20am Dr Who (2181645) 12.50 FILM: Crucible of Terror (1971) (7642954) 2.30-3.00 Shopping at Night (3453225)

TCC

6.00am Sesame Street (62973) 7.00 Barney (67553) 7.30 Sonic (38060) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (43089) 8.30 The Tick (35060) 9.00 The Toon Room (59640) 9.30 Where's Wally? (64060) 10.00 Garfield (28553) 10.30 Art Attack (6257621) 10.45 Dish of the Day (6252176) 11.00 AJ's Time Travellers (35669) 11.30 Hang Time (36398) 12.00 California Dreams (46176) 12.30 Bill and Ted (75176) 1.00 Sonic (56824) 1.30 New Pink Panther (74447) 2.00-5.00 Earthworm Jim (534534)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Batfink (9813824) 7.05 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (7636089) 7.45 Rugrats (2092631) 8.15 The Ferals (301195) 8.45 Count Duckula (9686076) 9.00 Nick Jr (489373) 12.00 Lunchbox (91602) 12.30pm Pee-Wee (44262) 1.00 The Ferals (92805) 1.30 Dungeons (43553) 2.00 Denver (1263) 2.30 Galaxy High School (2485) 3.00 Count Duckula (7918) 3.30 The Legend of the North Wind (4602) 4.00 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (3737) 4.30 Rugrats (2621) 5.00 Clarissa (5843) 5.30 Aaagh! Real Monsters (3973) 6.00 Doug (3114) 6.30-7.00 Are You Afraid of the Dark? (4466)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Untamed Africa (5887973) 5.00 Vanishing Worlds (9283379) 6.00 Invention (9571350) 6.35 Beyond 2000 (1541342) 7.30 History's Mysteries (7445176) 8.00 Lonely Planet (1860176) 9.00 Wings (1873840) 10.00 The Dinosaurs! (1883027) 11.00-12.00 Azimuth (9222992)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Teenage Monster (1958) (45675466) 1.15pm FILM: Something to Cry About (2128824) 2.00 The Saint (1491244) 3.00 Robin Hood (9268553) 3.30 Man from Interpol (7458282) 4.00 FILM: Private's Progress (1956) (9270669) 6.00 Death Valley Days (7452466) 6.30 The Wild Wild West (1884263) 7.30 Robin Hood (7432602) 8.00 The Saint (1857602) 9.00 Man in a Suitcase (1877466) 10.00-12.00 FILM: Revenge of the Nerds III (1992) (5694263)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (9284973) 7.00 Budget Banquets (1652282) 7.30 Beauty Workshop (1648089) 8.00 Budget Banquets (7796602) 8.30 Beauty Workshop (7795973) 9.00 More Front Gardens (7719553) 9.30 Kate and Allie (1921060) 10.00 Hearts of Gold (4581263) 10.50 Entertainment Now (40070843) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (4333447) 11.55 The Taste of Health (6300534) 12.30pm Infatuation UK 1.05 Kilroy (6161824) 2.00 Agony Hour (4248621) 3.00 Living (9864992) 4.00 Infatuation UK (9503805) 4.30 Crosswits (7460008) 5.05 The Joker's Wild 5.30 Bewitched (9523669) 6.00 Esther (8513282) 6.30 On the Bed with Paula (3207466) 7.05 Crosswits (3017114) 7.35 The Joker's Wild (6535602) 8.00 The Young and the Restless (2862973) 9.00 FILM: Woman on the Ledge (1990) (17428824) 10.50 Entertainment Now 11.00-12.00 Dangerous Women (1638602)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm The Wonder Years (8331) 5.30 (838060) 5.50 Batman (303621) 6.25 Catchphrase (997244) 7.00 Through The Keyhole (8195) 7.30 The Fall Guy (70973) 8.30 Home to Roost (6350) 9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: Put on by Cunning (55911) 10.00 Busman's Holiday (47805) 10.30 Moonlighting (38737) 11.30 Batman (24737) 12.00 The Fall Guy (77312) 1.00am Zorro (78732) 1.30 Rhoda (19835) 2.00 Moonlighting (34916) 3.00 Rhoda (96596) 3.30 Zorro (73770) 4.00 The Wonder Years (61935) 4.30-5.00 The Black Stallion (97225)

MTV

5.00am Awake (39645) 6.30 The Grind (85701) 7.00 3 from 1 (7489338) 7.15 Awake (5997973) 8.00 VJ Maria (996350) 11.00 Soul (54466) 12.00 Greatest Hits (96669) 1.00pm Non-Stop (72089) 2.00 3 from 1 (16370060) 2.15 Non-Stop (2261008) 3.00 Cinematic (5625244) 3.15 Hanging Out (6287398) 4.00 News 4.15 Hanging Out (3040485) 4.30 Dial MTV (7195) 5.00 Real World (7089) 5.30 Hanging Out (8447) 6.00 VJ Naomi Campbell (25553) 7.00 Greatest Hits (68485) 8.00 Most Wanted (80379) 9.30 Beavis (97398) 10.00 News 10.15 Cinematic (972350) 10.30 Oddities (58911) 11.00 Party (98060) 1.00am Videos (1224515)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (2590669) 9.00 Cafe (1202843) 12.00 Heart and Soul (5296485) 1.00pm Vinyl Years (5272805) 2.00 Mickie Most (4216621) 3.00 Into the Music (2857534) 6.00 VH-1-2-3: Duran Duran (5282669) 7.00 VH-1 for You (2714089) 8.00 Backtrack 1963 (1025602) 8.30 REM (1044737) 9.00 Jonathan Coleman (2703973) 10.00 Vinyl Years (2706060) 11.00 Around and Around (2570805) 12.00 The Nightfly Rocks (5860393) 2.00am Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (75825535) 8.30 Aap Ki Farmaish (54444669) 9.00 Hindi FILM: Prem Shastra (69192282) 12.00 Campus (54448485) 12.30pm Zabaan Sambhal Ke (45245911) 1.00 Hindi FILM: Meherbaan (66402756) 4.00 Saanp Seedi (10784805) 4.30 Manasi (10780089) 5.00 Zee Zone (66495824) 5.30 Hum Zameen (10704669) 6.00 Campus (10784282) 6.30 Zee and U (10785534) 7.00 BBCD (66475060) 7.30 Namaste India (10781718) 8.00 News (66491008) 8.30 Filmi Chakker (66403843) 9.00-12.00 Hindi FILM: Aana (71045553)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 8pm, then TNT films as below.

8.00pm The Angel Wore Red (1960) (21323805) 11.00 Doorway to Hell (1930) (48733114) 12.30am Private Parts (1972) (90616206) 2.00 Terror on a Train (1953) (47975374) 3.20-5.00 Private Parts (1972): As 12.30am (17605138)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

RUGBY UNION 42

WELSH DOUBTERS
TAKE HOPE FROM
MAGIC OF THOMAS

SPORT

BASEBALL 45

ATLANTA'S BRAVERY
TAKES THEM TO
BRINK OF SERIES

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27 1995

Valderrama's perils impede European elite at Volvo Masters

Forsbrand emerges unscathed

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT,
IN SOTOGRANDE, SPAIN

PLACES of torture do not have to be ugly and unkempt dungeons of squalor. Sometimes they can be be havens of beauty and light. Valderrama *golf course on the estate here* certainly was in the first round of the Volvo Masters yesterday. As a gentle wind blew up from the shimmering Mediterranean nearby, only four men were able to demonstrate any degree of superiority by breaking par over the course recently voted the best — and probably the most tortuous — in mainland Europe.

Among the 54 competitors, including almost all the leading players on the PGA European Tour, Mike Harwood, a former winner of this event, ran up a ten, three times visiting water on the 17th, and Darren Clarke, Wayne Riley, Joakim Haeggman and Ronan Rafferty, the 1989 winner, *took nines on that hole or* others. The squeals of outrage about the 17th could probably have been heard in Marbella to the east and Gibraltar to the west.

One who was not complaining was Anders Forsbrand. The Swede is the touring professional attached to this course, lives nearby and took full advantage of being in the third group out on a glorious morning to go round in 68, three under par. He leads by *one stroke from José Coceres*, the man who beat Greg Norman in the Alfred Dunhill Cup at St Andrews last week, and by two from Barry Lane and Ian Woosnam.

The 17th hole at Valderrama has always been the one hole that otherwise received acclaim that has never been quite right since the course opened ten years ago. It was intended to be a par five that could be reached in two strokes with a judicious balance *of nerve* and skill. It was designed by Robert Trent Jones, then it was modified by Severiano Ballesteros — and since he has a hand in everything that happens at this course, Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, the owner, dominant *figure and abiding presence*, had his say in it, too.

The aim has been to come up with a hole as exacting as the Road Hole at St Andrews and as exciting as the 15th at Augusta National. As was almost bound to happen, the hole now falls squarely between the two, being too risky to be compared with the 17th at the Old Course and not offering as much of a reward as the 15th at the site of the US Masters.

In its present guise, Valderrama's 17th hole has mounds dotting the landing area and beyond them a stretch of rough across the fairway, 280 yards from the tee. This is what is causing players like Colin Montgomerie *to describe the hole* as unfair. "Why stop a good shot?" Montgomerie asked. "If you can hit it nearly 300 yards and straight, you deserve credit for it. Here you are penalised." He was not penalised yesterday when he completed the hole in a regulation five.

A further difficulty is that the newly-laid green is both excessively firm, firmer than the other 17 on the course, and may be canted too severely. *Thus there is every possibility* that a well-struck ball that lands on the green will bounce off the firm putting surface and race over the green, leaving a player with a difficult downhill chip and a real possibility of the ball rolling down the green and into the sentinel pond. As if to make matters worse, the lie of the land around the pond gathers in shots that are not accurately struck.

"It's not a good hole," *Woosnam said. "I don't like* the green, it's far too severe," Sam Torrance said after his 73. "I don't like the camel humps in the fairway," Bernard Langer said on Wednesday. "If you hit a good drive you can bounce forward 50 or 60 yards or have your *ball* sent sideways into the rough."

ENRIQUE SHORE

Langer blasts out of a bunker at the 18th hole during the opening round of the Volvo Masters yesterday

On Wednesday evening, Montgomerie expressed his feelings about the hole to Patiño. "Would you like the rough cut tonight?" Patiño asked. "No, no," Montgomerie replied. "There's no need for anything as drastic as that." Later he began to wish he had asked for it to be cut. "No doubt it will be done by next year," Montgomerie said.

In the race to be European No 1 between Torrance, Montgomerie and Langer, Montgomerie has taken a *slight lead. His 71 was the* fifth-best score of the day, two strokes better than Torrance and three better than Langer. He appeared to be relaxed and calm after his joust with the course that brought so much angst to others.

Langer's golf resembled *that of a man who had taken a* week off, spent some time with his family and not yet fully regained his form. He was unhappy with his control of the golf ball and his accuracy. What would he give now for the 62 he had in the second round of this event last year.

Caddie's role, page 45

SCORES

FIRST ROUND (GB and Ire unless stated). 68: A Forsbrand (Swe). 69: J Coceres (Arg). 70: B Lane, I Woosnam. 71: M A Jiménez (Sp), P Eales, C Montgomerie. 72: J-L Guepy (Fr), A Lyle, R Chapman. 73: J Spence, S Luna (Sp), H Clark, S Struver (Ger), P Hedblom (Swe), S Torrance 74: A Cejka (Ger), J Parnevik (Swe), C Rocca (It), M James, M Lanner (Swe), I Garrido (Sp), D Gilford, B Langer (Ger) 75: P Mitchell, M Gronberg (Swe), M Jonzon (Swe), R Karlsson (Swe), P-U Johansson (Swe), A Coltart, P O'Malley (Aus), J Rivero (Sp) 76: A Oldcorn, O Karlsson (Swe), J Sandelin (Swe), F Nobilo (NZ), P Walton. 77: P Broadhurst, J Haeggman (Swe), R Allenby (Aus), A Johnstone (Zimb), P Baker, D Clarke, S Cage 78: R Claydon, P Teravainen (US), M Campbell (NZ), G Turner (NZ), W Riley (Aus) 79: D Cooper 80: J Townsend (US) 82: P Way, M Harwood (Aus). Disq: R Rafferty

England turn to Russell in the search for balance

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN JOHANNESBURG

AFTER opening their South Africa tour with two victories against modest teams in one-day matches, England's cricketers begin to discard their frivolous baggage today when they start a four-day match against an Invitation XI in Soweto. The significance of the *occasion is two-fold:* it is the first first-class match to be played in the township, and the team comprises as many bowlers as batsmen, with Jack Russell separating the specialists at No 6.

Raymond Illingworth, the manager, and Michael Atherton, the captain, have not dismissed the idea of going into the first Test match, at Pretoria on November 16, with a side of similar balance. It places a considerable responsibility, not to say burden, on Russell, the wicketkeeper, but the important runs he scored against West Indies last summer count in his favour and suggest that England are prepared to gamble on playing only five specialist batsmen if need be.

Whether one of the five is Mark Ramprakash remains to be seen, although his presence indicates how the selectors are thinking. He will bat at No 3 and a substantial innings would reinforce his claim to start the Test series in the position that has never been adequately filled since David Gower was eased out.

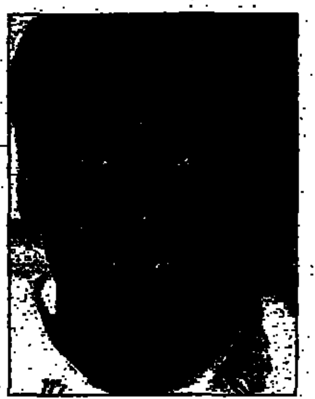
Robin Smith does not want to bat there and, in any case, he has first to convince the selectors that he has overcome the psychological effects of the double fracture of the cheekbone he suffered three months ago. Hick, who has batted all his career at No 3, is not considered up to the job. Whether Ramprakash plays there, or Crawley, it is asking an awful lot of the least experienced batsmen in the party.

"The uncertainty does not arise because we are dithering," Atherton said, "but because we feel the other players bat better in different positions. Whether Ramprakash bats there in the first Test depends on how many batsmen we pick, which in turn depends on what kind of pitch it is. But he has certainly started the tour well."

Illingworth admits that this tour represents "make or break" time for Ramprakash, who has long since passed the "promising" stage. At 26, he has entered a batsman's middle-age and as yet has little to show for it.

The tone of Illingworth's statement may comfort him. Alternatively, it may disturb him. "We feel that Ramps is technically the best-equipped player to fill the No 3 position," he said, hinting that the Middlesex batsman will get another chance there in the four-day match against Border in East London next week. "We are desperate for him to do well."

Both spinners, Illingworth and Watkinson, play in Soweto. The faster bowling will be done by Fraser, Ilott and Malcolm, whose form is giving England cause for concern. Peter Lever, the bowling coach, has been unable to modify either the length of Malcolm's run or his action in delivery stride. The implication is that Malcolm is not keen to amend something that has served him, for better or worse, these past dozen years.



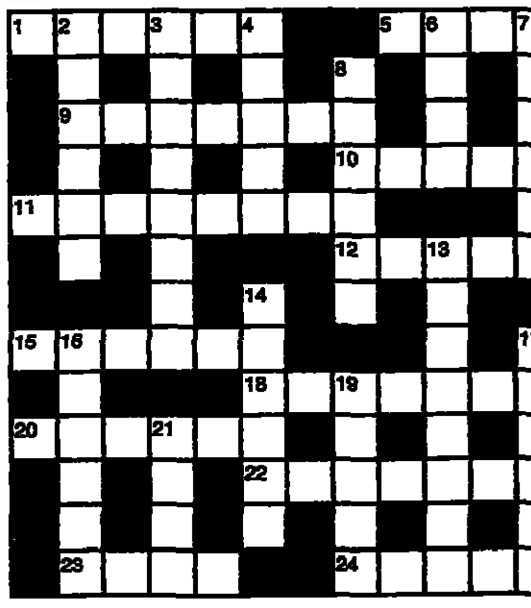
Ramprakash: chance

In Soweto, Malcolm's form with the ball will be only part of the story, for he has another role to fulfil, that of the successful black sportsman that the township's deprived youngsters may aspire to become.

SOUTH AFRICA INVITATION XI: W J Cronje (captain), P G Amm, J M Arthur, J N Rhodes, P C Strydom, G Toyana, R P Snell, L Mazikazana, M J Davis, M W Pringle, H Williams.

ENGLAND: M A Atherton (captain), A J Stewart, M R Ramprakash, G A Hick, R A Smith, R C Russell, M Watkinson, R K Illingworth, M C Ilott, A R C Fraser, D E Malcolm.

Libel damages, page 8



No 611

ACROSS
1 Right, means of entry (6)
5 Passport stamp permitting entry (4)
9 Life as competitive struggle (3,4)
10 Horrified (6)
11 Base supporting statue (8)
12 — Cromwell, Twist (6)
15 Minority slum area (6)
18 From the States (8)
20 Approval; good reputation (6)
22 Fast train (7)
23 Race meeting programme (4)
24 Venetian painter, fond of red hair (6)

DOWN
2 Spanish parliament, conquistador (6)
3 Transit warehouse (8)
4 Clever; be painful (5)
6 Short distance; small island (4)
7 Antipodean (informal) (6)
8 Fanatic (6)
13 Poor (8)
14 Pointed tufty beard (6)
16 Exceptionally brave, strong (6)
17 Feeling of sickness (6)
19 One living abroad (abbr.) (5)
21 Sullen, stern (4)

The solution to 610 will be published Wednesday, November 1

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Mather makes a final impression

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

A DIFFICULT week of injuries *and withdrawals has not* affected the buoyancy felt by the England rugby league team ahead of the Halifax World Cup final at Wembley tomorrow. Phil Larder, the coach, was speaking from a position of strength when he said yesterday: "We just feel we couldn't be playing Australia at a better time."

The remark was no slight on the Kangaroos, who are still some way short of comparison with last the conquering breed of last year, but acknowledgment of the improvements made since Great Britain's 2-1 series defeat 12 months ago, another of the defining moments in the British game.

To lose one set of half backs in Shaun Edwards and Daryl Powell is unfortunate, but to gain a potentially more dynamic pairing in Bobbie Goulding and Tony Smith is a sign of better times. Denis Betts, the England captain, *who has often experienced the* bitterness of ultimate defeat at Australian hands, said: "We are ready now to take the last hurdle and show ourselves to be worthy world champions."

Larder has made just one change to the starting line-up that accounted for Wales in the semi-finals. Nick Pinkney failed to make the attacking impression hoped for. His replacement, Barrie-Jon Mather is there, too, for his defensive capabilities, although with two of Larder's substitutes still to be named, Pinkney might well find himself on the bench.

The other vacancy will be filled by Gary Connolly, but only if the Wigan centre, who has been passed fit after *pneumonia, can convince* Larder. "He's not competed for four or five weeks. I'm not yet absolutely sure in my own mind," he said.

Chris Joynt has been recalled to the bench as cover at prop, as well as for his ability to slot into the back row. Mick Cassidy, too, is included for his versatility. Substitution is the area, tactically, that could swing the game and Larder, rightly, is not being rushed.

Andrew Farrell, nursing a slight groin strain, has ceded *the goalkicking duties to* Goulding. Jason Robinson, another who has been unable to train properly this week because of a foot injury, sustained in the Wales match, is expected to be fully fit.

Larder *referred* to the 1992 World Cup final defeat of England, the one occasion the Wembley jinx lifted for Australia in their last four appearances at the stadium, as "ancient history". Larder said: "Both teams are different. We're aware Australia are going in favourites, but we've trained well, the atmosphere is good, there is a lot of confidence among the players."

ENGLAND

K Radlinski (Wigan), J Robinson (Wigan), B-J Mather (Wigan), P Newlove (Bradford), M Offiah (Wigan), A Smith (Castleford), R Goulding (St Helens), K Harrison (Halifax), L Jackson (Newcastle Knights), A Platt (Auckland), D Betts (Auckland, capt), P Clarke (Sydney City), A Farrell (Wigan). Substitutes: M Cassidy (Wigan), C Joynt (St Helens). Two other substitutes to be announced.

Menzies's menace, page 46

Second sight in fourth round

BY RUSSELL KEMSPON

NEWCASTLE United's sear*ing start to the season, and the* 15 goals of Les Ferdinand, have to be put in perspective. Only two of Newcastle's victims in the FA Carling Premiership — Middlesbrough and Chelsea — occupy a top-ten place, and that their victories in the Coca-Cola Cup have come at the expense of Bristol City and Stoke City, hardly the most inspirational of opponents. More serious examinations lay ahead.

One such test of the apparently all-conquering progress at St James' Park will come on when Kevin Keegan takes his side to Anfield for a Coca-Cola fourth-round tie against Liverpool, one of his former clubs. It is the pick of yesterday morning's last-16 draw, which actually involved 22 clubs.

Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, claimed to have had a premonition of the confrontation. "I watched Newcastle beat Stoke on television and said to my wife that we'll *probably get them in the next* round," he said. "I thought it would be away, so getting them at home was a bonus." Unfortunately, Evans's sixth sense did not extend to information on the eventual outcome.

Terry McDermott, Newcastle's assistant manager and another former Liverpool player, said: "We are probably the best two teams in the country at the moment and it would have made a great final. It couldn't have been a tougher draw, but I'm sure they're saying that as well. We can still beat them."

Sheffield Wednesday take on Arsenal, at Highbury, in a re-run of the club's meetings in the 1993 finals of the Coca-*Cola Cup and* FA Cup — *both* won by Arsenal, the latter after a replay. Wednesday lost 2-0 in north London at the same stage of the Coca-Cola competition last season.

An incident in Wednesday's 2-0 third-round victory at Millwall is being investigated by the Football Association. A Millwall supporter ran onto the pitch during the game and allegedly threatened Kevin Pressman, the Wednesday goalkeeper. "He told me I was a dead man. I wouldn't get out *of the ground alive,"* Pressman said.

An FA spokesman said it would be asking for Millwall's views on the matter and also studying the report of Paul Durkin, the referee. It is the latest in a catalogue of *incidents* involving Millwall supporters. Although the club was cleared of blame when a spanner was thrown onto the pitch during a game at Reading in August, it was given a suspended sentence — of a £100,000 fine and playing two matches behind closed doors — after disturbances at the play-off game against Derby County in May last year.

[illegible]

Aston Villa v Queens Park Rangers
Arsenal v Sheffield Wednesday
Wolverhampton Wanderers or Charlton Athletic v Coventry City
Reading or Bury v Southampton
Norwich City or Bradford City v Bolton Wanderers or Leicester City
Leeds United v Blackburn Rovers
Liverpool v Newcastle United
Crystal Palace or Middlesbrough v Birmingham City or Tranmere Rovers
Ties played week commencing Nov 27

Tiler moves, page 42

7. DOWN.

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